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FEMA offers temporary relocation

By JON PEREZ jon_perez@saipantribune.com REPORTER

> ne of the options the Federal Emergency Management Agency is offering qualified families who were severely affected by Super Typhoon Yutu is a transportation assis

tance program that will enable them to avail of temporary housing and shelter.

For that, they would have to move elsewhere, like to another territory or a state in the U.S. mainland.

As of the latest count, a total of 454 homes on Saipan and Tinian were impacted by the typhoon, with 468 sustaining major damage.

David Gervino, the external affairs officer of the FEMA-National Incident Management Assessment Team, told Saipan Tribune that the program would enable qualified families or

individuals to fly to another place within the United States for shelter.

"Whether that's through the transitional shelter assistance program where people will be able to stay in hotels or if they have family members in the [U.S.] mainland or somewhere else they would want to go.

See FEMA on Page 4



Man charged with sex abuse of minor

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA

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The man who nearly jumped off a three-story building in Chalan Kanoa last Saturday has now been charged with sex abuse.

The Office of the Attorney General

charged 36-year-old Jordan Tudela with sexual abuse of a minor in the first degree. He was allegedly caught sexually assaulting an 11-year-old girl in Chalan Kanoa.

During a bail hearing last Tuesday, assistant attorney general Teri Teno-

DCCA: Report DNAP aid issues

By ERWIN ENCINARES

Anyone who might have received less than the maximum Disaster Nutritional Assistance Program assistance is being encouraged to **See MAN on Page 4** | report the issue immediately to the

Department of Community and Cultural Affairs.

Responding to reports of DNAP recipients who got less than the maximum assistance, DCCA Secretary Robert Hunter told Saipan Tribune that it would be best to report it to the

See DCCA on Page 4

All 9 feeders on Saipan now partially online

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE

ferdie delatorre@saipantribune.com

All nine power feeders on Saipan are now partially online, according to Commonwealth Utilities Corp. ex-



ecutive director Gary P. Camacho yesterday afternoon. Camacho

said Feeders Kiya 2, 3, and 4 are currently undergoing extensive repairs.

Power restoration work is also in progress in As Perdido, Koblerville, and Chalan Kiya.

"Other smaller sections throughout the feeders will be restored as primaries and water are completed,"

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INSIDE =



WORLD

The United States warns Russia it has 60 days to comply with a landmark missile treaty.

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ENVIRONMENT

Brazil's president-elect could push the Amazon rainforest past its tipping point.

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LIFE & STYLE

Kevin Hart has a new job-he will host the 2019 Academy Awards.

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SCAN ME WITH A COMPATIBLE **QR READER TO KEEP UPDATED** ON ALL THE LATEST NEWS.

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Local

7.5 magnitude quake hits near New Caledonia

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (AP)—A powerful earthquake that struck in the

southern Pacific Ocean on Wednesday sent jitters around the region after authorities warned of possible tsunamis, but there were no initial reports of destructive waves or major damage.

The magnitude 7.5 quake hit in the afternoon near New Caledonia at a shallow depth, where earthquakes are gener-

ally more damaging. It was felt as far away as Vanuatu.

The Pacific Tsunami Warning Center said tsunami waves of between 1 and 3 meters (3 and 10 feet) were possible along some coasts of New Caledonia and Vanuatu, before later lifting the warning.

CDA may have interest in \$290K disputed in suit

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com

The Commonwealth Development Authority has agreed with Bank of Hawaii's allegation that it may have an interest in the \$290,000 that is the subject of a defamation lawsuit filed by the wife of Superior Court Presiding Judge Roberto C. Naraja against the bank.

CDA, through counsel Charity R. Hodson, has also agreed with BOH that CDA is owed more than \$400,000 by Joaquin Deleon Guerrero.

Frances Deleon Guerrero Naraja is the wife of Judge Naraja. Mrs. Naraja and Mr. Deleon Guerrero are siblings.

In response to BOH's counterclaim, Hodson said CDA pursued payment of \$400,000 in the Superior Court, causing the court to issue multiple writs of attachment.

Hodson said some of the

writs were delivered to BOH, causing the bank to take action in compliance with the writs.

Mrs. Naraja is suing BOH for allegedly refusing to honor her eight cashier's checks in the total amount of \$290,000 that she had purchased in 2016. She also accused the bank of telling all other banks on Saipan that she had improperly secured the cashier's checks.

Aside from defamation,

Mrs. Naraja, through counsel William M. Fitzgerald, is also suing BOH for allegedly dishonoring the cashier's checks and conversion.

Mrs. Naraja seeks the return of \$290,000.

BOH filed a counterclaim against Mrs. Naraja and third-party claims against CDA, Gloria Deleon Guerrero Sablan, and the Lorenzo Deleon Guerrero Family Trust.

Sablan is Mrs. Naraja's sister. According BOH counsel Sean Frink, the bank simply seeks to join all of the potentially interested parties in one action so that their rights and responsibilities to the \$290,000 can be determined.

Frink said Joaquin Deleon Guerrero and his wife had declared bankruptcy, claiming that the true owner of the \$290,000 is and was the Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero Family Trust.

In CDA's response to BOH's counterclaim, Hodson agrees with the bank that the court should declare all of the

parties' respective positions with regard to the \$290,000 that was in the BOH account, the cashier's checks, and the \$290,000 allegedly held on deposit in the Superior Court.

Hodson said BOH is prevented from seeking monetary damages from CDA "because BOH assumed the risk of injury."

Hodson said CDA is entitled to immunity from suit based upon its status as an instrumentality of the CNMI government.

Career Opportunities Join Oun Teanu

TakeCare Insurance Company, Inc. offers health plans of optimal choice and easy access to the providers consumers want. A seasoned and enduring health insurance company, with over 45 years in the industry, TakeCare upholds the highest standards of excellence for accredited provider networks, patient management expertise, and end-to-end quality control processes. At TakeCare, our mission is to deliver quality health solutions for life. With increasing number of members, patients and employer groups, TakeCare continues to grow and expand throughout the region. Join a forward moving company.

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http://www.takecareasia.com/career_listing.php

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER AND A DRUG AND SMOKE FREE ENVIRONMENT

Bidding for 2 power generators for PP1 still in review

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com

No winner has been named yet in the bidding for two power generators for the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s Power Plant 1 in Lower Base, according to CUC executive director Gary

P Camacho

In an interview last week, Camacho said the bids have already been opened and that CUC is still reviewing them. The bidding was closed last

Camacho said CUC wants to buy just one power engine, and if the price of one engine

is just within their budget, then they will get one. However, if the bids show they can afford to buy two, then they will buy two engines.

Power engines 8 and 4 are currently not running as they were damaged in the past. CUC held the bidding to replace them.

As of last Nov. 27, Power Plant 1 in Lower Base reportedly had a 45-megawatt capacity available. The peak load as of last Nov. 26 was 18.1 MW

Power Plant 2 in Lower Base is still offline while undergoing inspections and testing.

Power Plant IV in Puerto

available capacity, is offline cording to Camacho.

Rico, which has 6 MW in and is a standby station, ac-

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

No tsunami alert

At 2:20pm yesterday, Dec. 5, 2018, a report of a 7.5-magnitude earthquake occurred 72 miles east-south-east of Loyalty Islands, New Caledonia. Currently, there were no reports of personnel injuries or damages to infrastructure and no tsunami warnings or advisories were issued by the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center. For more information, contact the CNMI Emergency Operations Center State Warning Point at 237-8000. (PR)

SHRM meeting today

The CNMI Society for Human Resource Management's general membership meeting will feature Labor Secretary Vicky Benanvente, who will discuss the Disaster Unemployment Assistance program and other disaster-related issues relevant to labor.

The SHRM-NMI Chapter invites its members, associated HR and management staff, and interested members of the public to attend the meeting today, Dec. 6, 2018, at Hyatt Regency Saipan's ballroom beginning at 11:30am.

This meeting is open to the public. The presentation includes the Hyatt lunch buffet at the cost of \$20 for SHRM members and \$30 for nonmembers. Seats are limited, so reserve your seat by contacting Penny Jones by e-mail at penelope.jones@hyatt.com or Denise Montenegro at denise.montenegro@hyatt.com or by telephone at 323-5867/68.

The SHRM is the world's largest association devoted to human resource management. For more information about the NMI Chapter, you can visit their website, nmichapter. shrm.org. (PR)

Guam CHamoru commission meeting set

The Kumisión i Fino' CHamoru yan i Fina'nå'guen i Historia yan i Lina'la' i Taotao Tåno' (Commission on CHamoru Language and the Teaching of the History and Culture of the Indigenous People of Guam) will hold its December monthly meeting on Dec. 13, Thursday, from 12:30pm to 3pm. The meeting will take place at the Garden House (former Guam Museum) in the Plaza de Espana, Hagåtña. For more information, contact Kumis-

ión chair/Gé'helo' Hope Alvarez Cristobal at 483-0097 or secretary/Sikritåria Rosa Salas Palomo at 727-5522. (PR)

Military training at Warning Area 517, FDM

ASAN, Guam—The U.S. military will conduct training at Warning Area 517 and at the island of Farallon de Medinilla up to tomorrow, Dec. 7, from 10am to 3pm. Training will also be conducted at W-517 today, Dec. 6, from 3pm to 7pm.

It is recommended the public, fishermen, and marine tour operators monitor the Coast Guard broadcast notice to mariners for advisories.

W-517 is activated south of latitude 12° 40 □ 00"N. Santa Rosa Reef and Galvez Banks are open for public use. W-517 begins south of Guam and extends south-southwest in international waters.

The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla will be in a 12-nautical mile radius of the island.

These types of trainings are designed to enhance the readiness of military personnel. Residents in surrounding areas should not be alarmed if they see or hear increased activity associated with the training. (PR)

MVA meeting on Dec. 14

The Marianas Visitors Authority's semi- annual general membership meeting will be on Dec. 14, at 10am at Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan. Guest speakers from the MVA's offshore offices will provide a recap of fiscal year 2018 projects and the MVA's marketing plans for fiscal year 2019, including post-typhoon recovery plans. Admission is \$20 for MVA members and \$25 for non-members. RSVP by emailing MVA Community Projects Division at communityprojects@mymarianas.com or calling 664-3210. (PR)

Year-end celebration on Dec. 29

On Dec. 29, the Marianas Visitors Authority and its tourism partners will host the Marianas Strong Year-end Celebration at Paseo de Marianas in Garapan, from 5pm to 10pm. The celebration will also be highlighted by the Mochitsuki Festival, featuring the Japan

tradition of rice pounding in preparation for the new year. The Christmas in the Marianas celebration, previously scheduled for Dec. 1, 8, 15, 22, and

29, 2018, is cancelled. For more information, visit www. mymarianas.com or contact the MVA at info@mymarianas.com or 664-3200/1. (PR)

Road closure in Garapan

The construction team of to Hard Rock Café and the Imperial Pacific Resort plans to start the removal of the crossbar from its tower crane this Friday and

In order to comply with safety regulations, a portion of Beach Road in Garapan will be closed during the removal project. The closed sections include the southbound lane from Cha Cafe

northbound lane from Hard Rock Café to Cha Cafe.

This will be from 7am to 10am on both Dec. 7 and 8.

"We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause the public; however, the safety of everyone is our utmost priority. Thank you for understanding and support," the company said in a statement. (PR)



Red Cross: About two-thirds complete

By ERWIN ENCINARES

erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com REPORTER

The American Red Cross-NMI Chapter is about twothirds complete in its recovery efforts for Saipan and Tinian.

ARC executive director John Hirsh told the Rotary Club of Saipan last Tues-

day that the organization has provided over 23,700 overnight stays in shelters; served 116,775 meals and snacks; handed out 2,584 cases of water; handed out 6,510 cleanup and sanitation kits; 9,153 hygiene kits; 131,966 emergency supplies; and 10,217 households were

given supplies since Yutu hit overlooked otherwise. in late October.

"We were able to leverage technology this time," said Hirsh explaining how the organization achieved these numbers. He said that with the help of geo-location apps, the organization was able to get to houses that would have been

With Hirsh was ARC Southeast Michigan Chapter's Sue Kohfeldt, who was also on Saipan representing ARC in response to Typhoon Soudelor in 2015.

"This is my fourth trip to Saipan. I came during Soudelor and I just fell in

responding to Typhoon Yutu. 'We want to make sure that everybody is taken cared of; that is our mission," she said, adding that assistance would be provided regardless of immigration status.

love with the islands," she

told the Rotarians. "When I

left and said [I will be back],

this was not my plan and I

apologize," she said with a

chuckle, referring to her role

in disaster response for Yutu.

unteers under ARC that are

Kohfeldt is one of 220 vol-

ARC has 809 volunteers trained for Yutu support along with support from businesses and government partners.

Hirsh further noted that ARC has opened 3,338 cases for families with destroyed homes—with an average of three to four people per household.

"We helped about 11,000 people," said Hirsh, adding that 3,271 debit cards were handed out to clients for monetary assistance, amounting to over \$1.4 million in financial assistance

According to Hirsh, there remains about 1,000 homes that need to be helped.

Losartan recall does not include NM

By JON PEREZ

jon perez@saipantribune.com

Theodore Parker has assured that patients in the CNMI are not affected by the recent recall of several hypertension drugs in the U.S. mainland. The Food and Drug Administration have ordered the recall of Losartan and other hypertension medicines due to contamination.

Valsartan, Amlodipine, Irbesartan, and hydrochlorothiazide were the other blood pressure maintenance medications that are included in the FDA recall due to being contaminated with the organic chemicals N-Nitrosodimethylamine and N-nitrosodiethylamine.

Both chemicals, according to fortune.com, are classified as possible human carcinogens.

NDMA is an industrial processing byproduct while NDEA is used to make liquid rocket fuel and is also a byproduct of fish processing and pesticide manufacturing.

"Fortunately, for us, we don't carry the manufacturer of the same drug [losartan] here in the CNMI. Not for this particular product and we carry a different manufacturer, so it is all good. So, for our patients here, it is perfectly safe," Parker told Saipan Tribune after Tuesday's public hearing at the Senate chamber on Capital Hill.

Parker, who is a pharmacist and owns Brabu Pharmacy, has been re-appointed for another four-year term to the CNMI Board of Professional Licensing/Health Care Professions Licensing Board. The Senate Executive Appointments and Government Investigations committee, chaired by Sen. Francisco Q. Cruz (R-Tinian), oversaw the public hearing.

Parker said the recall process begins when an agency or distributor files a report with the FDA. "The FDA will then investigate and they will determine the feasibility of the product in question, and if there's an issue.'

"After that, it is only then that they would release a recall. Drug recalls are very quick, depending on the type of recall. Sometimes there's a contaminant within the bottle, sometimes the tablets are misshapen, and sometimes there are more ingredients in there that should be."

He added that they quickly inform CNMI patients of any problems regarding medications here. "If pharmacies have this product, they have to call all of their patients that have the said medicine and have them sent back. They have to give it back, if it is that bad."

Parker welcomed his re-appointment as it would ensure the continuation of some of the projects that they have implemented or are planning to execute. "We're busy. There are a lot of things coming down the pipeline. There's a lot of things that we've started that I really like to see through. ... Obviously, whenever there's a change, pet projects have a tendency to be left behind for the new person's projects. So, there's some regulations that we've been working on and I just want to see it through to the end, and make sure it gets implemented," said Parker.

FEMA

From Page 1

It is a very specific program and there are certain criteria that has to be met," said Gervino, who was one of the guest speakers in the Saipan Chamber of Commerce meeting yesterday.

CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency Management public information officer Nadine Deleon Guerrero, U.S. Small Business Administration information officer Cynthia Cowell, SBA field operations specialist Victor Peralta, and American Red Cross job director Adam Runkle were the other guests in the Chamber meeting yesterday at the Hibiscus Hall of the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.

As he explained it, Gervino said that FEMA's individual case workers are calling families, households, or individuals that qualify for the program to explain to them in detail if they want to take avail of it.

"But there are certain restrictions, such as you have to travel and be away for 60 days or more," he said. The program is just one of FEMA's options.

People usually want to rebuild their damaged homes, he added

Bryan Aquino, an employee in a local tour agency, is one of those who availed of the transportation assistance program after their apartment in San Antonio was leveled by Yutu's winds. He is scheduled to leave on Dec. 16.

"A FEMA personnel called us and explained the program. My brother and I decided to take advantage of the program while our father decided to stay here with some of our friends on Saipan," Aquino told Saipan Tribune.

"I chose to go to Guam since the U.S. mainland is a bit far for me. I already have a plane ticket booked by FEMA. Also, I have friends in Guam that offered to help me. My brother will be leaving in January and he chose to go to the U.S."

FEMA would shoulder one's hotel stay for 10 days as you try to look for a temporary apartment, house, or shelter. They would also provide the airplane ticket to the place where you will be staying temporarily.

Territories qualify

Gervino said that, aside from U.S. states, territories also qualify for temporary relocation. "The [transportation assistance] program is just one of the many options, because we're aware that a lot of people prefer to stay closer to their homes after disasters so they could rebuild."

"So, they can be close and have a social network. U.S. territories also qualify...but they must not be impacted by a disaster. For example, we won't pay to fly someone to Tinian right now because there's also not a lot of housing that's available out there."

He said that FEMA is working with the CNMI government on this program. "We're handling this on a case-bycase basis and our individual case workers are proactively reaching out to households."

'[Our individual case workers] are calling each household that qualifies for the [transportation assistance program] to explain it to them in detail and to see if they want to avail of it. There are some families that have expressed interest in the program. So, we're working closely with them if they choose to take advantage of it. We look forward to helping them."

FEMA also has a temporary roofing program called the Temporary Emergency Tent and Roofing Installation Support program or TETRIS.

"Another option is the TE-TRIS program where we are putting up emergency and temporary roofing, providing tents, and other options for people so that if they do want to stay close to their homes, these are the available options for them," said Gervino.

DCCA

From Page 1

Nutritional Assistance Program in As Lito immediately.

"If there is real substantiated evidence of that, then that should be brought back to the NAP office," Hunter said. "Unless we have details, we do not have anything we can act on. [These instances] should immediately be brought to the attention of the NAP director." "It might be a simple error; it might be something else.

But we would like to know

that," Hunter added. NAP administrator Walter Macaranas said in a telephone call that his office has not yet received any reports about this. He is skeptical but, if that is the case, Macaranas said he agrees with Hunter that it should be re-

ported immediately. "I don't know how that is. ceived less DNAP assistance] need to come in and look at the records. I do not think that is happening," he said.

[Those who claim to have re-

Macaranas noted that his office hasn't received any reports as of yesterday.

"If they believe they got less benefits [from DNAP], they should come in and report it," he said

Saipan Tribune learned from a social media posting

less than \$100 in DNAP assistance for a household of four. According to DNAP guidelines, the maximum monthly benefit is \$944.

that one reportedly received

Two others made the same claim.

Saipan Tribune reached out yesterday afternoon to those claiming to have received less than the maximum benefits allotted for DNAP but they have not responded as of press time.

MAN

From Page 1

rio also charged Tudela with child abuse and disturbing the

Superior Court Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio imposed a \$100,000 cash bail on Tudela and set his oreliminary hearing for Dec. 10, 2018, at 9am on the second floor of the Marianas Business Plaza.

Tudela will be represented

by Office of the Public Defender's Jean Pierre Nogues.

Tudela was remanded back to the custody of the Department of Corrections after the

According to court information, Tudela's girlfriend and the alleged eyewitness of the assault told police that she caught Tudela sexually molesting the 11-yearold girl in their residence in Chalan Kanoa last Saturday afternoon

The eyewitness told police

that she panicked and ran out of the room and immediately called for police assistance. Tudela reportedly left the house prior to the arrival of Department of Public Safety officers.

The 11-year-old victim later allegedly told police that Tudela had threatened to kill her family if she reports what he did to her.

Tudela allegedly begged his girlfriend not to report the matter to local authorities, and that she reported the incident nonetheless, prompting him to climb atop a three-story building in Chalan Kanoa and threaten to jump off.

For over three hours, responding police officers and first responders urged him to get off the edge of the building and the incident caused massive traffic in the area. He was later arrested at the building site.

Tudela was taken to the Commonwealth Health Center where was admitted and later released on Dec. 3.

FEEDERS

From Page 1

he said.

Feeders refer to conductors that have large electric current-carrying capacity. They connect the utilities substation to the area where

power is to be distributed to households, establishments, or consumers.

In Kiya 2, Camacho said that CUC's crew are working on laterals in the As Lito area since Monday to provide power to residents. An estimated 7.2 percent of customers in Kiya 2 are now

energized.

As of last Monday, power crew continue working in Chalan Kiya areas under Kiya 3. Approximately 62.4 percent of CUC customers are now energized through Feeder 3

Since Monday, power crew continued working on

and stringing of conductors.

Last Monday, CUC announced that Saipan already has 63 percent power and 82 percent water, while Tinian has 20 percent power and 100 percent water.

Kiya 4, from Atkin's Kroll to the Townhouse building, repairing hardware, framing,

USDOL returns to normal in NMI after Yutu

The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration has returned to normal enforcement operations throughout the CNMI following Super Typhoon Yutu. OSHA will continue to provide compliance assistance and outreach through the CNMI Onsite Consultation Office.

In the typhoon's aftermath, OSHA ceased programmed enforcement inspections in impacted areas, and focused on assisting employers and employees involved in cleanup and recovery operations. OSHA retained its right to

perform enforcement inspections involving fatalities, catastrophic incidents, employee complaints, and employers that repeatedly exposed employees to serious hazards during cleanup and recovery activities.

OSHA's On-Site Consultation Program offers no-cost, confidential occupational safety and health services to smalland medium-sized businesses. Employers can call (670) 287-7531 or (670) 287-7533 to schedule a visit. Employers and employees working in the affected areas may also call OSHA's toll-free hotline

at 800-321-OSHA (6742), the Honolulu area office at 808-541-2680, or go to the OSHA Hurricane Preparedness and Response website for additional information.

Under the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, employers are responsible for providing safe and healthful workplaces for their employees. OSHA's role is to help ensure these conditions for America's working men and women by setting and enforcing standards, and providing training, education and assistance. For more information, visit http://www.osha.gov. (PR)

Cab driver gets time-served sentence

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com

The federal court has imposed an eight-day timeserved sentence on a cab driver who turned out to be an overstaying tourist and was found with a fake CNMI driver's license.

Cong Chen, a Chinese national, shall also serve six months of supervised release.

At a change of plea hearing Monday afternoon, U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona barred the 28-year-old Chen from possessing a controlled substance and to refrain from using illegal drugs.

Manglona suspended the drug testing condition based on her determination that Chen poses a low risk of future substance abuse.

As a further condition of his supervised release, Chen must pay a \$100 in special assessment fee.

After the hearing, the defendant was remanded into the custody of the U.S. Marshal for his release.

At the hearing, assistant U.S. attorney Eric S. O'Malley and court-appointed defense counsel Benjamin Petersburg, both recommended that Chen be sentenced to time served.

O'Malley also informed the

court that Chen will be turned over to Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

Chen pleaded guilty to aiding and abetting fraud as part of a plea deal.

Chen, through an interpreter, said he came to Saipan as a tourist in April 2017 and extended his stay. He admitted that he paid \$1,200 to obtain a CNMI driver's license.

Assistant U.S. attorney O'Malley said that a Federal Protective Service inspector saw Chen illegally park in Garapan last Nov. 28. When the FPS inspector confronted Chen, he presented what appeared to be a fake CNMI driver's license.



Yamabisi 8.5KVA, 220V, Gasoline / C-Channel | 10KVA Step do

Model: EM8500-C Power(KVA): 8.5KVA 10KVA Step down Transformer \$100 (package with generator). Reg. price: \$150

Tin Roof 19ft. with generator). Reg. p

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SAAR, TOHGE Inc. join forces for dual recovery

The substance abuse recovery groups in the CNMI and Guam have joined forces to offer dual disaster assistance and peer-led recovery assistance after the on-slaught of Super Typhoon Yutu in the CNMI.

The two are the Hinemlu O'hala Para Enteramenti or H.O.P.E. Recovery Center—through the Substance Abuse, Addictions and Rehabilitation Program under the Office of the Governor—and Guambased TOHGE Inc.

Yvette Sablan, the special assistant for the SAAR program, said that TOHGE has been a strong partner in the development of peer specialists in the Commonwealth, and readily provided support beyond the realms of recovery.

"Disaster recovery has been in full swing for almost a month and, with the complexity of mental health recovery, dual assistance has been extremely critical to sustain our program's progress. We are extremely grateful for the partnership of TOHGE and their assistance with much-needed mental health resilience for the folks in recovery. At the same time, Gov. [Ralph DLG] Torres emphasized his appreciation for the support they have provided to our Islas-Aramas Peers, or I-APEER), our own



TOHGE and Substance Abuse, Addictions and Rehabilitation Program members begin dual recovery efforts for Super Typhoon Yutu.

peer specialists," Sablan said.

The peer support movement was introduced to SAAR by the Commonwealth Health Center's Community Guidance Center.

"They had invited us to attend a training provided by the Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration and, after realizing what the training was about, we encouraged our staff and clients to avail of the training and certification. These specialists are people that understand addiction firsthand and have been successful with their recovery. We recognize the importance of this support and understand that these are the individuals that need to be in our treatment provider discussions. Thanks to I-APeer's president, Ms. Lucy Hocog and members, we have been

receiving awesome insight on how to best support our clients and...advocacy is provided beyond the compound of the HOPE Recovery Center. SAAR now has three staff, clients and their families that have passed the exam and are certified on an international level as peer specialists through the International Certification & Reciprocity Consortium," Sablan said.

TOHGE Inc. chair Jeremiah Santos said the organization started as the vision of the late Don Sabang, the former Drug and Alcohol Division supervisor of Guam Behavioral Health and Wellness Center. He created a team of advisers that included Peerlink's Robyn Priest, Athena Duenas who is the current Drug and Alcohol Division supervisor, Dr. Debbie Ellen, and Holly Rustic, to name a few.

"The Superior Court of Guam and everyone in the advisory team believed that a program which includes people in recovery guiding others in treatment and recovery would be beneficial to the island of Guam. Guam being an island where there are not enough clinicians to support those already in treatment saw a need for an organization like TOHGE and believed it would benefit the island and generate hope. The ultimate vision is to have a safe place where people in recovery can go to and not be vulnerable to the negative influences of drugs and alcohol and be in a place where they will not have stigma waving over their heads," Santos said.

TOHGE provides support to Guam's treatment courts and, through its regional training, now has a total of 58 certified peer recovery specialists, 34 of which are

internationally certified.

"Overall, TOHGE assisted in the creation and organization of the CNMI's peer-led organization Islas-Aramas. Two of its members came here on a dual mission to assist Islas-Aramas on building capacity as well as assist in Super Typhoon Yutu relief efforts. So aside from joining the 12step meetings to assist SAAR on empowering participants to maintain stability in their treatment, they participated in the Recovery Show on KKMP Saipan to discuss peer support, breaking stigma and, most notably...they joined in on the daily mass care food distribution and community cleanup in the south," Sablan added.

Torres stated that much of overall recovery is based on building capacity and forging stronger regional partnerships.

"Our SAAR program has come a long way and we have focused on giving our community the best possible treatment and care available. TOHGE's support goes hand in hand with our long-term vision of building a more resilient community, whether it be disaster-related, socioeconomic or health-related. Our community is getting better at reducing the stigma and all these services offer hope to those who are ready to take the next step to positive change." Torres said. (PR)



Michael Cruz, MD is new GRMC CEO

DEDEDO, Guam—After three years under parent company The Medical City and local healthcare professionals, Guam Regional Medical City president and chief operating officer Michael Cruz, M.D. will assume the role of chief executive officer effective immediately.

"This has been the plan from the beginning, for local healthcare professionals to assume the leadership roles at GRMC," said Cruz. "I am very proud of what we've accomplished so far and would like to thank Margaret Bengzon for the outstanding contributions, commitment and guidance provided GRMC over the last four years while she was CEO."

GRMC's local leadership also includes Dr. Felix T. Cabrera as chief medical officer and former senator Francis Santos, who is a consultant and member of GRMC's board of directors. The board also welcome a new chairman, Jose Xavier B. Gonzales, who also serves as chairman of TMC's board.

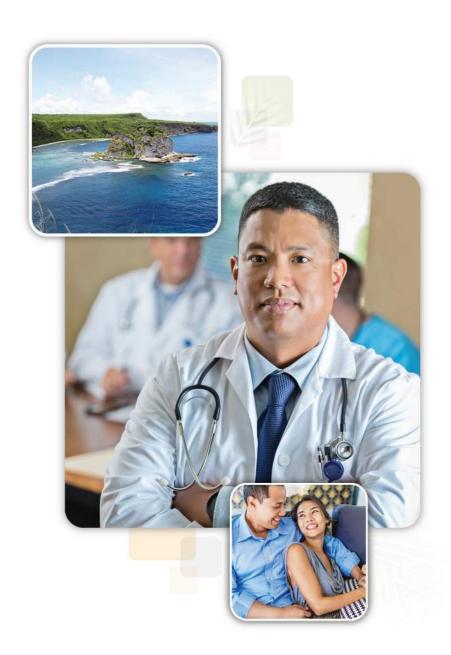
"GRMC has surpassed expectations since opening in July 2015," said Gonzales, "Moving forward, I am excited to work with Dr. Cruz and the team that we've built here. With support from the board, GRMC will continue providing the people of Guam with excellent medical care."

Since opening for patients in 2015, GRMC has realized major accomplishments like The Joint Commission accreditation and recent reaccreditation, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services certification, and College of American Pathologists accreditation for its laboratory.

GRMC has expanded its medical services from general surgery, critical care, general internal medicine, radiology, neurology, and hyperbaric wound care by adding cardiology, oncology, infusion services, advanced pulmonology care, orthopedic surgery, rheumatology, podiatry, infectious disease control and more, including full-scale emergency, and urgent care departments.

"I would like to thank our parent group and the investors...in the building of GRMC. Your confidence in our island has been a positive investment opportunity and has had long-term healthcare benefits for our people," said board member Francis Santos. (PR)

Thank you Federal Employees and Annuitants!



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8 THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2018 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Opinion



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EDITORIAL

A holiday from your cellphone

By CATHERINE PRICE

Los Angeles Times

Catherine Price is the author of How to Break Up With Your Phone and the founder of the JOMO Project.



s the whirlwind of the holidays descends, you may find yourself wishing that you could slow down time. Here's the thing: You can.

You just need to put down your cellphone.

I first discovered this myself a few years ago when, as an experiment, my husband and I took a 24-hour break from all our screens starting at sundown Friday. Saturday morning we accomplished more by 11 a.m. than we'd normally get done in an entire day. We cooked. We talked. We cleaned. We read. I practiced guitar. We played with our daughter. I felt like I'd unlocked a time-stretching superpower that I hadn't known I possessed.

Since then, I've heard many similar reports from people who have taken up my suggestion to try a 24-hour phone fast—what I like to call a "phast"—for themselves. It turns out that this is the result of a real psychological phenomenon.

"When we're on our devices, we lose the ability to mark the passage of time," says David Greenfield, a psychology professor at the University of Connecticut School of Medicine and founder of the Center for Internet and Technology Addiction. "This phenomenon is called dissociation, and virtually everyone experiences it to some extent when on screens."

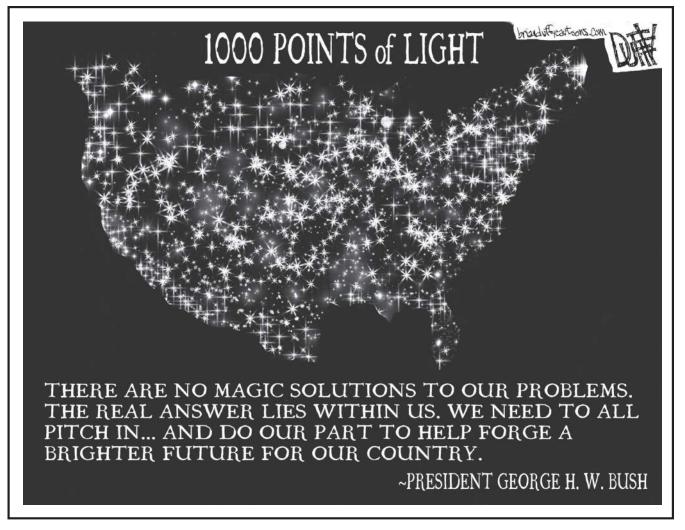
Designers often do things to deliberately trigger dissociation to get us to "engage"—marketing speak for "spend time"—with devices for as long as possible. There's a reason, for example, that casinos don't have windows or clocks: That makes it hard to judge how long we've been dropping money into that slot machine. Apps on mobile phones and tablets employ similar techniques, using features such as endlessscroll news and social media feeds to make us lose track of time. Spoiler alert: You'll never "finish" Twitter!

Although phones can make hours seem to mysteriously disappear, the good news is that the opposite is also true: By putting digital devices aside, you can make your perception of time slow back down. As Greenfield explains, "Putting down our phone places us back in what I call 'real time,' and this is where life is really lived and experienced."

Indeed, the way we spread joy during the holiday season ultimately comes from our presence. I recently met a man who'd given his young son a coupon book of activities they could do together. The father was touched and, he admitted, disturbed when the first coupon his son chose to use was "a day together where Dad is not on his phone."

These realizations have inspired me to conduct another experiment: From now till the end of the year, I've resolved

See CELLPHONE on Next Page



Infectious diseases will spread as temperatures rise

By FRED COHAN and ISAAC KLIMASMITH

in the summer of 1969, Time magazine published photos of Cleveland's Cuyahoga River in flames, searing the images into the national consciousness.

The Cuyahoga River on fire became a lasting symbol of environmental damage and pollution—and a tipping point that helped galvanize Americans to take action and Congress to enact landmark environmental legislation, including the Clean Water Act and Clean Air Act.

Together, these laws save hundreds of thousands of American lives every year.

The recent National Climate Assessment paints a clear picture of the much larger environmental crisis that the United States confronts today: global warming. According to the report by 13 federal agencies, global warming will harm our ecosystems and our economy.

Yet we continue to meet the rising temperatures, superstorms, drought and mega-fires brought about by climate change with relative inaction.

Although the environmental costs of global warming may still seem distant to some Americans, there is a growing threat that many may find harder to ignore: infectious disease.

As another new report, the Lancet Countdown on Health and Climate Change, makes clear, warming poses a diversity of risks for human health.

More and more, hot summers will increase mortality and limit our capacity for outdoor labor. Superstorms in some regions will cause flooding of sewage systems and thereby spread gastrointestinal disease, while severe droughts in other regions will increase rates of asthma. Food production will be severely reduced in many countries. Many regions will see increased risks of infection.

Although environmental destruction may not scare us in an immediate way, infectious diseases very well could. Indeed, the impacts on human health could become the burning river of the 21st century.

Let's begin with Lyme disease. Forest destruction in the Northeast creates small wooded habitats where mammals that

> consume a variety of food can thrive while the diversity of other more specialized species plummets.

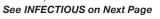
white-footed mouse is one such generalist that abounds in tiny forests. Unfortunately, this mouse is poor at removing ticks but excellent at infecting them with Lyme disease. Meanwhile, small forests are missing the Virginia opossum, the so-called vacuum cleaner of the forest, which is able to remove and kill almost all the ticks it picks up.

Destroying a forest can

also spark a pandemic. In West Africa, deforestation displaced bats from their forest habitat into villages such as Meliandou in southern Guinea. There, in 2013, a 2-year-old boy encountered a colony of bats in a hollow tree and contracted Ebola, a disease that would go on to claim his life and the lives of more than 11,000 other people.

As the world warms, tropical diseases are inching their way toward the United States. One such disease, leishmaniasis, marks its victims with crusty skin lesions and disfiguring scars. It has already spread north from Mexico, through southern Texas and into Oklahoma.

Other tropical diseases that are being unleashed along with a warmer climate include elephantiasis, which causes a grotesque swelling of the limbs; Chagas disease, which can lead to severe chronic heart problems; and the Zika virus, with its attendant fe-





Camp fire in Paradise, Calif., on Nov. 16, 2018.

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Clicks or Bricks

ith the growing pervasiveness of online and distance education opportunities (Clicks), future students will have transcripts peppered with courses from different modes of instructional delivery at different institutions. At West Texas A&M University, rarely will a student's academic record come completely from courses taken on campus (Bricks). This "academic diversity" will become the norm in public higher education.

Demands for convenience create growth in online delivery. As the number of working adults engaged in study increases, the benefits of online learning opportunities likewise increase. Currently at West Texas A&M University, one in five students is engaged in some form of the online study. Competition between various online/on-campus providers, both for-profit and non-profit, also grows.

The challenges of online education are not limited to the United States, but are equaled by the United Kingdom, Turkey, South Korea, South Africa, Brazil, China, India and Russia where digital delivery is increasing. These nations are home to over 50% of the world's population. Recent studies report growth in online enrollment everywhere. Online education is increasingly perceived as a legitimate means of study.

Traditional strengths of intentional on-campus delivery have value, but well-conceived online offerings also provide effective learning potential. At WT, the Paul and Virginia Engler College of Business provides guidance to proactively ensure quality in delivery of online instruction. Hiring a faculty member to teach from a bedroom in New Hampshire is not the same thing as having an online faculty member who also teaches on campus and lives in the region of the home institution, as is the case in our most subscribed online programs in business, education and nursing. Enlightened leadership recognizes the importance of addressing these challenges.

Private companies—not typically educational providers—are "getting into the game" of providing directed educational opportunities to their employees. Kettering University was originally established as The School of Automotive Trades in 1919 in Flint, Michigan. When acquired by GM the name became General Motors Institute of Technology (GMIT). GMIT provided a means for advancement and learning potential that fit the GM mission. This specificity, desirable for corporate effectiveness, is rational in a for-profit enterprise. Today, US News ranks Kettering University, the name that it has held since 1998, as number 13 nationally among non-PhD degree granting engineering

CELLPHONE

From Page 8

to plug my phone into an out-of-sight charging station the moment I walk in the door in the evening. (The ringer stays on, in the highly unlikely case that someone calls in an emergency.) I'm asking my family to do the same. It's fine if we occasionally slip—expecting perfection would be a recipe for failure. The point is simply to make a conscious choice to spend more time together this holiday season and less time with our faces buried in our phones

If you're interested in doing something similar but find the idea daunting, my suggestion is to start small. Designate the dinner table as a phone-free zone. Get a basket or box where people can deposit their phones at mealtime. Consider buying a box of conversation prompts if it'd help to make more of a fun game of it. You may encounter resistance at first but before long it may seem strange to think that you ever allowed mobile devices at

A 24-hour phast (or two, or three) from sundown to sundown is also a good way to decompress from too much holiday stimulation. You are likely to experience withdrawal symptoms—I certainly did—especially the first evening. But most people I've talked to about their own phasts are surprised by how refreshing and empowering they feel.

Changing habits is difficult, especially when it comes to our phones—and the holidays might seem like the hardest time of year to unplug. But think of it this way: You've got a month until New Year's Eve, so why not do some experimenting between now and then? If you don't like the results, you can always go back to your old habits. But if you do like the way it makes you feel, then by the time Dec. 31 arrives, you'll already have found a 2019 resolution that you might just keep.

schools, first in Michigan for salary potential and 10th nationally for return on educational investment. A trade school has adapted to a changing educational environment. Agile online providers married to adaptive on-campus educational providers create 'fields white for harvest" in purposeful partnerships.

Changes in the educational ecosystem create consternation for institutions that covet a 17th-century mindset of university education. I have little sympathy for that hide-bound perspective, but I also recognize the power of a traditional on-campus experience. Over the last two decades, expectations accompanying a bachelor's degree, such as increased lifetime earnings, a changed view of the world and other outcomes of a college experience, have diminished. Value and debt forcefully affect these perceptions. A good pipefitter can earn as much as a good teacher. In addition, that same pipefitter, as well as the teacher, can study 17th-century German art in the evenings, online, at no cost.

The ubiquitous nature of knowledge and insight, and accessing both, has changed everything. Bi Sheng's invention of moveable type in 1040 enabled Gutenberg to develop his lead, tin and antimony type systems. Without the Gutenberg Bible, Martin Luther might as well have been speechless.

The prosaic challenges of online learning are manifold. Cheating is more common in online courses. The number of students who start and complete online courses is less than on-campus instruction, yet lenders and grant providers make little distinction between those who study online and those who study on campus. Passive students with inferior study habits and little peer interaction find online settings tough. Even with well tested online tech-

By WALTER V. WENDLER

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Walter V. Wendler is president of West Texas A&M University. His reflections are available at www.walterwendler.com.



nology, there are still obstacles to overcome when a technical issue at the home institution causes communication to cease

Online study and learning is mildly disruptive to universities and colleges that seek to maintain a traditional approach to college. However, online instruction does not diminish the value of on-campus education, but sharpens, focuses and augments that experience while opening it up to an ever-widening range of people.

This is likely: the on-campus experience in the next decade will decreasingly be a four-year experience and increasingly become something different with less time spent on campus. The residential four-year baccalaureate degree as the only effective framework for learning is already a historical artifact.

Thoughtful universities will not argue the variety or veracity of online education but rather find ways to integrate that learning experience with the more traditional on-campus experience.

Clicks plus Bricks. Never, any longer, Clicks or Bricks.

Yes, the first President Bush was exceptional

h, cut it out, some leftist critics have said of the adulation now being visited on the late President George But what they might want to do is learn from him.

They might want to reflect on his courtesy, his kindness, his honesty, his forgiving nature, his courage, his strength of personality, his sense of what is right and wrong at a given time, his love of country, his overall character.

We could most of us take a lesson or two or maybe a hundred from him, and then there's his presidency. Disabled folks, listen, he made life a lot better for you with a law addressing all kinds of ways in which you could be aided when necessary and made equal with everyone else when applying for jobs. He took on economic mishaps and got the better of them. He helped reunite East and West Germany.

The list goes on and on, but a real biggie is the way he followed up on his predecessor's work on ending the Cold War and facilitating the dismemberment of the Soviet Union. While rearrangements were tough and perilous, Bush pulled it off with calm, cool decorum that avoided the worst possibilities and abetted the best. Critics often say Bush and President Ronald Reagan were not prime players in what happened, and obviously, as in any major historic event, myriad forces were at play. But these two took charge and made choices in a manner crucial to things unfolding the way they did, and to say otherwise is just politics.

So why didn't he win re-election? Well, he had said no new taxes in his campaign and he helped produce new taxes and this was a killer, as he knew it would be even though he had decided to put his view of what was right over his political future. Then there was Ross Perot taking votes from him as a third-party candidate - he would almost surely have won otherwise - and a politically brilliant opponent in Bill Clinton, someone happily indulging in trash talk for the sake of victory.

The interesting thing here, of course, is that the endlessly, recklessly bashed Bush was as good-hearted and helpful to Clinton

By JAY AMBROSE

Tribune News Service

Jay Ambrose is an op-ed columnist for Tribune News Service. Readers may email him at speaktojay@aol.com.



after the votes were counted as anyone could be. Clinton grew to love him. The two were like father and son. This says so much about the man, as does his graduating from Yale in two and a half years, his 73-year marriage to the great Barbara Bush, the way he raised his sons, his heroism as a Navy aviator, his enormous success as a businessman and his respected service as a member of the House, as CIA chief and as an ambassador.

As a journalist for more than a half century, I've known lots of politicians on the local, state and national level. There are those I admire and too many who have done damage to my hopes and expectations. A chief fault is ego and self-interest, of putting one's own political success above the common good, if with a ready means of justification. What is sometimes said behind closed doors is that they have to do this to win, but that their victory will produce more good than a trivial misstep. No, not if it becomes a way of things.

I only met Bush once. He was vice president then, and it was just a brief press conference in which he outlined his precise, detailed understanding of an issue. I was impressed but I have been far more impressed by all the testimony about his exceptionalism, private as well as public. Obviously, he made mistakes as president and he's as vulnerable as any leader to questions about decisions interpreted by some as dreadful or worse. But his overriding decency, his focus on serving his country above any personal consideration, make me salute him with all my heart.

INFECTIOUS

From Page 8

tal brain disorders. All of these diseases are likely to move north. Infectious diseases will make visceral the toll that environmental destruction takes on human health, and in doing so may become a powerful motivator. In the past, humans have harnessed our fears of infection to improve public health—seeking cures, creating safe water supplies and discovering vaccines.

As a result of climate change, we will need to expand our

concept of public health to include the broader environment. To protect the health of our own bodies, humans must also care for the natural world around us.

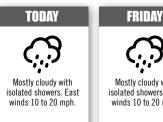
The fires on the Cuyahoga River were a watershed moment for environmental awareness in the United States. The leishmaniasis-scarred faces of Americans in the heartland may be next.

Fred Cohan is a professor of biology and environmental studies at Wesleyan University in Connecticut. Isaac Klimasmith is a student at Wesleyan University and a Doris Duke conservation scholar.

10 THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2018 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIA



▼ 77°

▲88°

Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph

▲88° ▼ 77°



Partly cloudy with isolated

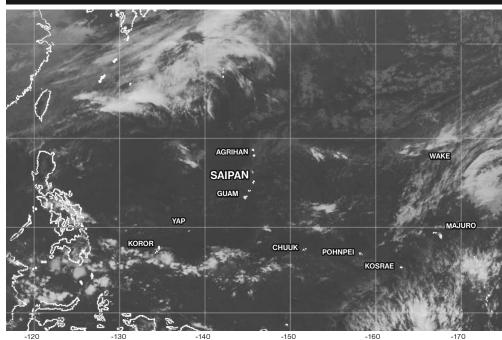
▲89° ▼ 78°

Partly cloudy with isolated

▲89° ▼ 78°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE

▲89° ▼ 78°



PICTURE TIME: 5:42 AM, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2018

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Andersen Air Force Base Doppler weather radar shows isolated showers moving through the Marianas waters. The VAD wind profile indicates east-northeast winds of 15 to 20 knots just off the surface which build to between 20 and 30 knots through the lowest 8 thousand feet of the air. The buoys reveal combined seas of 6 to 9 feet, composed mainly of trade-wind waves and trade-wind swell.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲ ♥°F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	87° / 79°
Palau	Thunderstorms	86° / 77°
Yap	Thunderstorms	86° / 80°
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	86° / 79°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	86° / 76°
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	87° / 76°
Majuro	Thunderstorms	85° / 80°

Majuro	Thunderstorms	85° / 80°
AROUND THE	GLOBE	≜ ▼°F
Auckland	Showers	63° / 54°
Beijing	Sunny	25° / 10°
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	72° / 61°
Honolulu	Showers	80° / 71°
London	Showers	55° / 54°
Los Angeles	Rain	63° / 50°
Manila	Partly Cloudy	90° / 77°
Melbourne	Windy	93° / 66°
Miami	Partly Cloudy	74° / 69°
New York	Partly Cloudy	41° / 33°
Osaka	Showers	55° / 39°
Paris	Cloudy	54° / 52°
Busan	Mostly Sunny	34° / 21°
Rome	Partly Cloudy	61° / 55°
Salem	Sunny	53° / 35°
San Francisco	Sunny	57° / 45°
Seoul	Sunny	25° / 10°
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	63° / 43°
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	42° / 32°



Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

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■ *11 on any IT&E cellular phone ■ Log on to the internet at www.nmicrime stoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY FEET							
01:00 AM	LOW TIDE	-0.21					
07:42 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.82					
1:07 PM	LOW TIDE	1.03					
6:19 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.99					

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:29 AM	5:45 PM
Friday	6:30 AM	5:46 PM
Saturday	6:30 AM	5:46 PM
Sunday	6:31 AM	5:46 PM
Monday	6:32 AM	5:47 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	5:14 AM	5:02 PM	-
Friday	6:08 AM	5:48 PM	-
Saturday	7:01 AM	6:37 PM	-
Sunday	7:53 AM	7:26 PM	-
Monday	8:43 AM	8:16 PM	-

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF NOVEMBER 20, 2018

		CHEDU TURES	ILE AS	OF NOVE		R 20, 2 IVALS	2018
SAIPAN-GUAM UA117 UA105	9:15am	9:55am 5:25pm	Daily 2, 4	GUAM (GUM) - UA174 UA104	7:30am	8:11am 3:41pm	Daily 2, 4
SAIPAN-BUSA 7C3451		– <i>temporarily</i> . 6:30am	suspended Daily	BUSAN (PUS)- 7C3452 7C3452	9:35pm	– temporarily 2:00am+1 2:00am+1	suspended 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 1
SAIPAN-SEOUI 7C3401		8:25pm	Daily resume from Nov 27	SEOUL (ICN)-5 7C3402	SAIPAN 10:10am	3:30pm	Daily resume from Nov 27
Temporarily suspectives 100 to	1:10am 1:35am 2:20am 2:50am 3:20am	5:20am 6:00am 6:40am 6:30am 6:30am	3, 4 Daily 1 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 2 5 Daily	Temporarily susp TW9307 TW307 TW307 0Z625 0Z625 TW9307 TW9307 7C3404	6:30pm 7:00pm 7:05pm 7:40pm 8:20pm 9:00pm 9:05pm	12:10am+1 12:35am+1 12:35am+1 1:00am+1 1:40am+1 2:20am+1 2:25am+1 3:40am+1	2, 3 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 1 7 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 1 4 Daily
SAIPAN-SHAN		VG) – <i>resume</i> 8:50am	from Nov 28 1, 4, 5, 7	SHANGHAI (P 3U8647		PAN — <i>resume</i> 4:50am+1	from Nov 28 3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-HANG JD396 JD396	7:30am	1GH) — <i>resum</i> 11:00am 7:55pm	ne from Nov 28 1 4	HANGZHOU (F JD395 JD395	8:05am	3:30pm 5:00am+1	ne from Nov 28 4 7
SAIPAN-GUAN 3U8646		(CAN) — <i>resu</i> 7:55am	<i>me from Nov 26</i> 2, 6	GUANGZHOU 3U8645		NIPAN — <i>resu</i> 2:40am+1	
SAIPAN-BEIJIN MU764	-) – resume fro 6:35am	m Nov 27 3, 5, 7	BEIJING (PEK MU763		1 – <i>resume fro</i> 12:30am+1	
SAIPAN-MANII UA117/183 UA117/183 UA117/193 UA105/183	9:15am 9:15am 9:15am 9:15am 4:45pm	-	2, 5 via GUM 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM 2, 5 via GUM- ROR 2, 4 via GUM	MANILA (MNL UA182/174 PR110/UA174 UA192/174 UA184/174	12:40am 10:05pm 10:30pm	8:11am+1 8:11am+1 8:11am+1 8:11am+1	3, 6 via GUM Daily via GUM 2, 5 via GUM- ROR 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG	_	-		HONG KONG (
HX077 U043		5:15am 8:40am	1, 4 resume from Nov 28 1, 3, 5, 7 resume from Nov 22	U042 U042	6:50pm	12:15am+1 1:45am+1 4:25am+1	3, 7 resume from Nov 28 7 resume from Nov 22 2, 4, 6
UA117/159	9:15am	11:00pm	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via GUM	0042	J.50piii	4.2Jaiii+1	resume from Nov 22
UA105/159	4:45pm	11:00pm	2, 4 via GUM	UA116/174	11:45pm	8:11am+1	2, 4, 6 via GUM
				UA116/174	11:55pm	8:11am+1	1, 3, 5 via GUM
LEGEND: Days: N	Monday (1), Tuesday (2)	, Wednesday (3)	, Thursday (4), Frid	day (5), Sa	turday (6) and	Sunday (7); 3U

Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. (The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

9:00AM 9:15AM 1203 Daily **SAIPAN TO ROTA** 1204 10:00AM 10:15AM Daily **FREQUENCY** FLIGHT# DEPARTURE ARRIVAL 1205 11:00AM 11:15AM Daily 1301 7:30AM 8:00AM Daily Daily 1206 12:00PM 12:15PM 11:30AM 1302 12:00PM Daily 1:00PM 1:15PM 1207 Daily 1303 4:00PM 4:30PM Daily 1208 2:00PM 2:15PM Daily 1209 3:00PM 3:15PM Daily **ROTA TO SAIPAN** 4:00PM 4:15PM 1210 Daily DEPARTURE ARRIVAL **FREQUENCY** 1211 5:00PM 5:15PM Daily 3101 8:15AM 8:45AM Daily 1212 6:00PM 6:15PM Daily 1:45PM 2:15PM Daily 3102 **TINIAN TO SAIPAN** 4:45PM 5:15PM 3103 Daily FREQUENCY FLIGHT # DEPARTURE ARRIVAL **ROTA TO GUAM** 7:30AM 7:45AM 2102 Daily FLIGHT# DEPARTURE ARRIVAL FREQUENCY 8:30AM 8:45AM 2103 Daily 3401 12:15PM 12:45PM Daily 9:30AM 9:45AM 2104 Daily 10:30AM 10:45AM 2105 Daily **GUAM TO ROTA** Daily 2106 11:30AM 11:45AM FLIGHT # DEPARTURE ARRIVAL FREQUENCY 12:30PM 12:45PM 2107 Daily 1:00PM 1:30PM 4301 Daily 1:30PM 1:45PM 2108 Daily 2109 2:30PM 2:45PM Daily **SAIPAN TO TINIAN** 3:30PM 3:45PM 2110 Daily FLIGHT # DEPARTURE ARRIVAL FREQUENCY 4:30PM 4:45PM 2111 Daily 7:00AM 7:15AM 1201 Daily 2112 5:30PM 5:45PM Daily 1202 8:00AM 8:15AM 6:30PM 6:45PM Daily 2113 Daily

VOX POPULI: NMC resumes fall semester

Northern Marianas College welcomed many of its students this week to its temporary location at Saipan Southern High School. Students were greeted by faculty, staff, and student leaders, who helped distribute school supplies. Some students shared how they felt about returning to classes after Super Typhoon Yutu.

"I am a Project PROA navigator, so I am looking forward to



helping and engaging with other students. At Project PROA we provide mentoring and tutoring services so I'm looking forward to helping students get back onto their academic path and to help them reach their academic goals."

-Angeline Orsini, Associates of Arts in Liberal Arts with an Emphasis in Social

"I'm excited that we're on track toward normalcy at the college. It's great to see many of my peers again, but I'm also excited for us to move back to NMC's main campus in As Terlaje."

-Carriecarmen Pangelinan, Associates of Arts in Liberal Arts



"Besides work and home, I'm really excited to be busy again. It was both a restful and stressful month, so I'm happy that NMC was able to resume its classes

Science in Criminal Justice



"It's exciting to be in the same room as my classmates again. After a month of being apart, it's great to be back."

-Derric Conde, Associate of Arts in Liberal Arts with an Emphasis in

"Prior to the storm, I was on track to graduate this fall so right now I am most excited about earning my associate degree in Liberal Arts."

-Eligiah Camacho, Associate of Arts in **Liberal Arts**



"I get to see all my friends and I missed my teachers too so I'm really excited to see them as well."

-ReavenJei Cruz, Associate of Arts in **Liberal Arts**

"I'm eager to get back to my classes and learn more. I'm glad we're back to finish what we started.'

-Joey Cruz, Associate of Arts in Liberal Arts



"I actually missed studying so my classes are what I'm really looking forward to as well as student clubs and activities throughout the remainder of the semester."

-Minsung Kim, Associate of Arts in **Liberal Arts**



"Besides my friends and teachers, I am looking forward to my Japanese class because it's really fun and I'd like to learn more about the Japanese culture and the Japanese language."

-Margaret Aldan, Bachelor of Science in Education with a concentration in **Rehabilitation and Human Services**

"This is my first year at NMC and even though the storm hit the college hard, I'm very happy to be around other NMC students again."

-Frantia Sablan, Associate in Science in Nursing



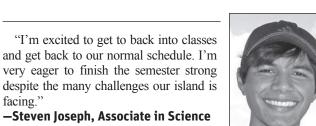


facing.'

in Nursing

"Finishing the semester is my primary goal but I'm also looking forward to NMC rebuilding. I'm also thankful that Southern gave us the space to host our classes here for the next two weeks."

-Stephen Alonzo, Associate in **Applied Science in Computer Science**



again."

-Claude Cruz, Associate in Applied





Office of the Executive Director **REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS** CUC-RFP-19-001

Commonwealth

Utilities Corporation

Repair of CUC Power Plant No. 2 Building Structure, Lower Base, Saipan, CNMI

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified firms for the Repair of CUC Power Plant No. 2 Building Structure, Saipan, Lower Base, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The work includes replacement of various building elements which were damaged due to the Typhoon Soudelor and also additional work required to strengther the facility for improving its integrity with a view of withstanding elements of nature. CUC has performed partial work under an ongoing contract with another

This project is funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of approval for project award from the above mentioned funding agencies.

CUC requires the Project to be completed in 150 calendar days from the date of issuance of the Notice to Proceed

Prospective Proposers must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The RFP Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$150.00 for one RFP package set.

A Pre-proposal Conference will be scheduled on **December 18, 2018 at 10,00 am (ChST)**, at the power plant conference room, followed by a site visit. All attendees are required to arrive with appropriate Personal Protection Equipment (PPE). **The attendance in the conference and site visit is mandatory to ensure that the parties are fully familiar with the existing site conditions.**

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-RFP-19-001 - Repair of CUC Power Plant No. 2 Building Structure, Saipan, Lower Base, CNMI", to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Po. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on January 4, 2019. Late submissions and conditional Proposals will not be considered. Proposal shall be submitted on the provided Proposal Forms. Proposers are required to complete all Proposal Forms. Proposers may supplement the form as opriate. Proposals will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 90 days after submission

A Proposal Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total Proposal price must accompany the Proposals. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check cashier's check, or Proposal bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Proposers are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

Discussions may be conducted with responsive offerors who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Offerors shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity to discussion and revision of proposals, and such revision may be permitted after submission and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining the best and final offers. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing offerors.

Proposers are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Proposer due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract. The RFP does not commit CUC to award a contract to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Proposers are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered Prospective Proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 Am (ChST) on December 19, 2018 to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator, via email – manny-sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Venugo Prabhakara, CUC Project Manager – via email venugopal.prabhakara@cucgov.org and Christie Sablan, CUC Senior Purchasing Assistant-via email christie

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all Proposals and waive any imperfection in the Proposal in the best interest of the government. All Proposals shall become the property of CUC.

GARY CAMACHO

MANNY B. SABLAN



Commonwealth **Utilities Corporation**

Office of the Executive Director



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS CUC-RFP-19-002

LEASE OF OFFICE SPACE FOR CUC ROTA ADMINISTRATION & OPERATION

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from individuals or firms for the lease of office space for CUC Administration and Operation, Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The proposed office space must conform to American Disabilities Act (ADA), OSHA and CNMI Zoning regulation.

The RFP package may be obtained at the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section (Saipan, Tinian or Rota), by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$20.00 for one RFP package set. The RFP package will be provided in a CD or emailed to the registered Proponents email ID. Prospective Proposers for this RFP must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division to be considered.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-RFP-19-002, Lease of Office Space for CUC Rota Administration & Operation" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on January 7, 2019. Late submissions and conditional proposals will not

Discussions may be conducted with responsible offerors who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Offerors shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity to discussion and revision of proposals, and such revision may be permitted after submission and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining the best and final offers. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing offerors

All Offeror are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract. The RFP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to produce or contract for services

Offeror are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This RFP and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on December 21, 2018 to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Christie Sablan, Senior Purchasing Assistant via email address christie.sablan@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

GARY CAMACHO

MANNY B. SABLAN

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2018 **13**

IN SEX TRAFFICKING CASE

Order denying defendant's motion to withdraw guilty plea vacated

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE

To avoid the perception of impartiality, U.S. District Court for the NMI designated Judge David O. Carter has granted the motion of a defendant in a sex trafficking case to vacate District Court Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona's order that denied the defendant's second motion to withdraw his guilty plea.

Carter said Wei Lin does not assert any facts that suggest the conflict influenced Manglona's orders denying the motions to withdraw the guilty plea.

However, Carter said, in order to avoid any appearance of impropriety and in accordance with the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling in Liljeberg case, to avoid the risk of undermining

public confidence in the judicial process, the court vacates the April 14, 2017 order denying Lin's second motion to withdraw his guilty plea.

In the Liljeberg case, the U.S. high court ruled that "any justice, judge, or magistrate of the United States shall disqualify himself in any proceeding in which his impartiality might reasonably be questioned."

Carter set a re-hearing on

the motion to withdraw for Jan. 29, 2019, at 8:30am. Sentencing, if necessary, will be held on Jan. 29, 2019, at 1pm.

Lin, through counsel Bruce Berline, had asked Carter to conduct a re-hearing on his motion to withdraw.

Last July, Manglona granted Lin's motion to recuse herself from his sex trafficking case as he implicated the judge's brother, former Saipan senator

According to Muña, this was CHCC's way of support-

"...They are the pipeline of nurses [for CHC], so we want to make sure that there are nurses coming out of the college," she said. "This is a great opportunity for them to make sure that they don't fall behind and still go through the targeted date of gradua-

"We are deeply thankful for our partners and their contributions," said Eliptico. "We have a long way to go to rebuild NMC, but I know that, with the support of our partners, we will come back even stronger

Several of NMC's buildcampus sites last Monday.

tion," she added.

In a statement to Saipan Tribune, interim NMC president Frankie Eliptico expressed gratitude to CHC. Currently, NMC classes are being held off-campus at either the Saipan Southern High School or CHC.

and more resilient."

ings sustained extensive damage to Super Typhoon Yutu, forcing the lone community college in the CNMI to temporarily halt instruction. They only resumed classes in temporary off-

CHC adopts NMC class

By ERWIN ENCINARES

REPORTER

One of the Commonwealth Health Center's unused rooms is currently being used as a classroom by a nursing class as recovery efforts continue at the Northern Marianas College's As Terlaje campus.

Saipan Tribune learned Monday that an NMC nursing class temporarily uses an unused room at the Saipan hospital.

"Some of the nursing classes are going to be held here

in the Continuing Education Room," Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. chief executive officer Esther Muña told Saipan Tribune. "We gave them access to the room to allow them to continue teaching classes so that [nursing students] could fin-

ish the semester.' The class is divided into a morning and afternoon class.



The Commonwealth Health Center adopts one of the nursing classes of the Northern Marianas College as classes start a month after Super Typhoon Yutu.

NMPASI mourns passing of former president

The Northern Marianas Protection and Advocacy Systems, Inc., or NMPASI, joins the rest of the nation in mourning the death of former President George H.W. Bush, who holds a special place in the lives of people with disabilities since he signed into federal law the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

As a member of the National Disabilities Rights Network, NMPASI would like to share these words from Curt Decker, executive director of the National Disability Rights Network, who issued the following statement on the death of the former President:

"All Americans owe President Bush a debt of gratitude. When he signed the Americans with Disabilities Act in 1990, it opened new frontiers education, employment,

transportation, and community living for people with disabilities. It ensured that all of us, whether born with a disability or acquiring one later in life, would have the same rights and opportunities as every other American.

"The passing of the ADA whelming bipartisan support.

is also an example of a time in our nation's history when elected officials worked together to do what is best for the country. Under President Bush's leadership, the law was negotiated in the spirit of compromise and passed with over-



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

File photo shows former President George H.W. Bush signed into federal law the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

We urge our leaders today to follow that example."

NMPASI executive director James Rayphand said: "Much of what we do at NMPASI is rooted in the mandates of the ADA and, though we are saddened by President Bush's passing, we also take comfort in knowing that his legacy as a champion for the civil rights of Americans with disabilities will live on through our advocacy efforts and through the countless contributions not otherwise possible, if not for the ADA, of people with disabilities in communities throughout the nation."

For more information about your rights under the Americans with Disabilities Act, contact NMPASI at 235-7273/4 or visit us online at nmpasi.org. (PR)

and current Commonwealth Ports Authority board member Thomas "Kiyu" Villagomez, as one of the alleged organizers of a prostitution conspiracy. Carter was then assigned the case.

In Lin's motion to vacate, Berline said that Manglona twice denied the defendant's motion to withdraw his guilty plea.

Berline said the issue here is an important one—the possible withdrawal of Lin's guilty plea based on a gross mischaracterization of his likely sentence by his former attorneys.

In her order last July granting Lin's motion for disqualification, Manglona said she takes seriously any issues that would impugn the court's integrity.

The judge said that, had this new information been presented by Lin with the other documents at an earlier time, she would have recused herself even in the absence of a motion.

The new information Manglona was referring to is when Lin openly moved for her disqualification and for the first time, he included a 2013 private investigator's report of an interview taken of Villagomez.

Lin was accused of luring women from China to Saipan on false promises of jobs and then forcing them into prostitution once they got on the island.

In April 2012, Lin was charged with three counts of sex trafficking and one count of financially benefitting from a sex trafficking venture. The sex trafficking occurred between July 2010 and November 2010 at the Rosen Music Studio karaoke bar.

On June 8, 2012, Lin pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit sex trafficking.

In March 2015, Manglona sentenced Lin to 235 months of imprisonment. Lin, through Berline, appealed his sentence to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

In November 2016, the Ninth Circuit reversed the sentence and remanded the case to the District Court for resentencing. The resentencing has been reset several times.

Lin, through Berline, filed a motion last July, requesting Manglona to disqualify herself from the case as Thomas Villagomez is the judge's brother. Manglona granted Lin's motion.

In Lin's motion to vacate the order, Berline said the defendant accepted the plea deal based upon his reliance of his then-counsel's advice that the base offense level would be 14, and thus, with likely enhancements, the sentencing guidelines would be around 37 to 70 months.

Manglona's determination, the lawyer said, resulted in Lin filing a motion to withdraw his guilty plea on April 16, 2013.

Berline said that, on April 14, 2017, Manglona denied the motion from the bench for essentially the same reasons contained in the previous order denying Lin's previous motion to withdraw his guilty plea.

Dolphin Club ends shelter children swim program

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA

REPORTER

The 500 Sails' Dolphin Club recently concluded its Shelter Children swimming program due to the start of classes in public and private schools.

According to 500 Sails president Emma Perez, the Dolphin Club recently took a break from its regular adult swim classes to accommodate a new program that would teach shelter children how to swim.

"We kind of took a break from adult swimming to focus on swim classes for the kids living in shelters," she said.

Perez said the purpose of the program was to occupy the attention of children during such a troubled time and to give parents the opportunity to go to work or just take a break while their children were off learning to swim.

Perez said since the devastation of Super Typhoon Yutu, 500 Sails has gone out of its way to pick up all interested shelter children and bring them to Pau Pau Beach where they'd

swim for most of the day.

We picked up the shelter kids, since they're out of school, and three days a week we've been teaching the kids how to swim...First, we were catering to the kids sheltered at the Marianas High School shelter but we later started picking up kids at Tanapag Elementary School and Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School and taking them to Pau Pau," she said.

Perez said the swimming program stemmed from the original Gamsun project that was created to prepare high school students to pass the swim test needed to become official lifeguards.

"It came out of the Gamsun project, which was started before the typhoon. That's a project...to get high school students ready to pass the swim test needed to take a lifeguard class..." she said.

The students participating in the Gamsun project also volunteered to clean up the typhoon debris that littered the beach by the Guma Sakman in Susupe.

SAIPAN TRIBUNE THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2018 **15**

Business

White House intensifies confusion and fear on US-China deal

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY **CNMI GOVERNMENT**

INVITATION TO BID

ITB NO.: ITB19-BECQ-024

SUBMISSION DATE: DECEMBER 24, 2018 TIME: 9:30 A.M.

"OFFICE SPACE RENTAL FOR THE BUREAU OF ENVIRONMENTAL

AND COASTAL QUALITY (TINIAN BRANCH)"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT &

SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30-3-725 AND

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN DIRECTOR, PROC. & SUPPLY

THE LESSOR MUST COMPLY WITH THE CNMI PUBLIC LAW 15-21, ARTICLE 5, SECTION 8652 (A-D)

70-30,3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY,

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Trump administration raised doubts Tuesday about the substance of a U.S.-China trade cease-fire, contributing to a broad stock market plunge and intensifying fears of a global economic slowdown.

Investors had initially wel-

The maker of Marlboro ciga-

rettes is joining some of the

biggest names in beer in ex-

ploring the budding cannabis

Altria Group Inc., which

owns Philip Morris USA, is the

latest big company to show in-

terest in marijuana. Late Mon-

day, Canadian medical mari-

juana company Cronos Group

Inc. confirmed talks with Altria

Altria, based in Richmond,

Virginia, is one of the largest

cigarette makers in the United

States. The company said it

had no comment on Cronos'

Altria joins beverage makers

like Molson Coors, Constella-

tion Brands and Heineken that

already have announced moves

in the cannabis space. Other big

companies like Coca-Cola, Pepsi,

Anheuser-Busch and Guinness

brewer Diageo haven't acted yet,

but have said they're watching

closely as the market for mari-

nos Group rose 6 percent Tues-

day to close at \$10.74. Altria

The cannabis market is ex-

pected to rapidly grow as legal-

ization expands in the U.S. and

social norms change. On Tues-

day, conservative Utah became

the latest state to legalize mari-

juana use for medical purposes. Consumers are expected to

spend \$57 billion per year world-

wide on legal cannabis by 2027,

according to Arcview Market

Research, a cannabis-focused

investment firm. In North Amer-

ica, that spending is expected to grow from \$9.2 billion in 2017 to

shares fell 2 percent to \$54.40.

juana and its extracts evolves. Shares of Toronto-based Cro-

announcement

about a possible investment.

By DEE-ANN DURBIN

marketplace.

Marlboro maker Altria the latest

big company to explore pot

comed the truce that the administration said was reached over the weekend in Argentina between Presidents Donald Trump and Xi Jinping — and sent stocks up Monday. But on Tuesday, after a series of confusing and conflicting words from Trump and some senior

growth," Constellation Brands

CEO Rob Sands said in a recent

conference call with investors.

In August, Constellation, which

owns Corona beer and Manisch-

ewitz wine, invested \$4 billion in

exchange for a 38 percent stake

in Canadian marijuana grower

Canada legalized recreation-

al marijuana use this year, and

it will allow food and drinks

containing cannabis sometime

next year. In the U.S., marijuana

still is illegal at the federal level,

but 10 states and the District of

Columbia have legalized rec-

reational marijuana for adults.

Colorado and Washington were

first in 2012 and Michigan is the

latest after voters approved the

Canopy Growth.

800 points, or 3.1 percent. White House aides have struggled to explain the details of what the two countries actually agreed on. And China has not confirmed that it made most of the concessions that the Trump administration has claimed.

officials, stocks tumbled, with

the Dow Jones shedding about

'The sense is that there's less and less agreement between the two sides about what actually took place," said Willie Delwiche, an investment strategist at Baird. "There was a rally in the expectation that something had happened. The problem is that something turned out to be nothing."

the stock sell-off, including falling long-term bond yields. Those lower rates suggested that investors expect the U.S. economy to slow, along with global growth, and possibly fall into recession in the coming year or two.

John Williams, president of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, also unnerved investors by telling reporters Tuesday that he supports further Fed rate hikes. His remarks renewed fears that the Fed may miscalculate and raise rates so high or so fast as to depress growth.

The disarray surrounding

the China deal coincides with a global economy that faces other challenges: Britain is struggling to negotiate its exit from the European Union. Italy's government is seeking to spend and borrow more, which could elevate interest rates and stifle growth.

And in the United States, home sales have fallen sharply in the past year as mortgage rates have jumped.

Trump and White House

aides have promoted the apparent U.S.-China agreement in Buenos Aires as a historic breakthrough that would ease trade tensions and potentially reduce tariffs. They announced that China had agreed to buy many more American products and to negotiate over the administration's assertions that Beijing steals American technology. But by Tuesday morning, Trump was renewing his tariff threats in a series of tweets.

Board of Trustees

Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands 1 Lower Navy Hill Road Navy Hill, Saipan, MP 96950



PUBLIC NOTION

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9911, the Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation hereby gives notice that a Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held on Thursday, December 6, 2018 at 12:00 p.m. in the CEO's Conference Room 3 located at the Administrative offices (new wing)

> CHCC Board of Trustees Special Meeting Thursday, December 6, 1018 at 12:00 p.m.

Agenda

- Call to Order I.
- **Determination of Quorum**
- III. Review and Adoption of the Agenda
- IV. **Adoption of Minutes**
- V. To vote and approve the Board of **Trustees FY2020 Budget**
- VI. To vote and approve Applications for Privileges for the following individual: New Applicants: 1) Dr. Christopher Martin 2) Dr. Genny Feinberg 3) Dr. Kimberly Moseley 4) Thomas Collord, NP. Renewal Applicants: 5) Christine Kapileo, Midwife 6) Faviannna, Midwife
- VII. Adjournment

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY

CNMI GOVERNMENT

- II.

P.O. Box 500409 CK, Saipan, MP 96950 Telephone: (670) 236-8201/2 FAX: (670) 23-8756



idea last month.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM, OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

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/S/ ELI D. CABRERA Administrator. Becq

INVITATION TO BID ITB19-GOV-007

SUPPLY & DELIVERY OF ROLL-OFF TRUCK WITH CABLE HOIST & TARPING SYSTEM for the TINIAN TRANSFER STATION

Governor Ralph DLG. Torres, and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Capital Improvement Program (CIP), (collectively, "Commonwealth") are soliciting sealed bids for the Supply and Delivery of Roll-Off Truck with Cable Hoist and Tarping System for the Tinian Transfer Station, Tinian, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on December 4, 2018 at the Office of Management & Budget, Office of the Governor, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building in Capitol Hill Saipan. A \$25.00 non-refundable fee for the project package will be assessed. All interested bidders are required to include an Insurer Certification Clearance (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC should be obtained at the Department of Commerce, Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, as revised through May 24, 2001 and with the Northern Mariana Islands Administrative Code (NMIAC) §70-30-3-725 Gratuities and Kickbacks and §70.30.3-730 Prohibition Against Contingent Fees. All wage rates for employees performing the work, labor and services on this project shall be paid at the current U.S. prevailing wage rates established for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. There will be a pre-bid conference for this project on Thursday, December 6, 2018, 10:00 am ChST at the CIP Office in Capitol Hill, Saipan. Questions concerning this project shall

be directed to Ms. Nerissa Benavente in writing by e-mail: nerissa.cip@gmail.com, on or before Thursday, December 14, 2018 to the Capital Improvement Program, Office of the Governor, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, or fax (670) 664-2408. All responses to inquiries will be shared with all prospective bidders. Sealed bids must be marked ITB19-GOV-007 Supply and Installation of Roll-off Truck with Cable Hoist & tarping System for the Tinian Transfer Station. For bidders within the CRIMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply Costed at the former Emergency Management Office, Building No. 1301, Ascencion Drive, Capitol Hill on Saipan no later than 10-00 a.m. ChST January 3, 2019. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to Bid must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than 10-00 a.m. ChST January 3, 2019 and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664–1515, or via e-mail to procurement@crimidof.net. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than January 3, 2019 and the bid

documents must be received no later than January 14, 2019. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid. Bids will be publicly open and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply located at the former Emergency Management Office, Building No. 1301, Ascencion Drive, Capitol Hill on Saipan at 10:30 a.m. ChST January 15, 2019. However, if no notices of intent to bid are received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be open at 10:00 a.m. ChST January 3, 2019.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) a bid security of fifteen percent (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashier's check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

ibmitting the **l**owest sponsive bid wi**ll** be su t to a responsibi**l**ity determinati responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than \$25,000.00.

Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

a) A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and

A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceeds the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bonc prior to executing a contract. Acceptable assets are only:

- US Government Securities
 Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
- Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
- Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is One Hundred Eighty (180) calendar days upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. The daily amount of liquidated damages shall be two percent (2%) of the contract price divided by 180 calendar days, the contract time and will be accessed as delays beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Ralph DLG. Torres

Herman S. Sablan, Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL RFP NO.: RFP19-GOV-027 SUBMISSION DATE: DECEMBER 31, 2018 TIME: 1:00 P.M. "MULTI-DISCIPLINARY PROFESSIONAL"

ADVISORY SERVICES FOR THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY. LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS RFP IS DUE NO LATER THAN THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS DECEMBER 07, 2018 TO MS. GLENNA SP REYES, VIA E-MAIL TO glenna.sp.reyes.ao@gmail.com.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/<u>S/ ralph dlg. torres</u> Governor

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN DIRECTOR, P&S

\$47.3 billion in 2027. Cigarette and beverage makers, in particular, want a stake in

a market that could eat into demand for their traditional products. For example, a 2017 U.S. government survey showed daily marijuana use was exceeding daily cigarette use among high school students.

"We think that this is another very aligned category that's going to develop very fast and very large and it simply presents another opportunity for **16** THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2018 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Nation

Mueller recommends no prison for Flynn, citing cooperation

WASHINGTON (AP)— President Donald Trump's former national security adviser provided so much information to the special counsel's Russia investigation that prosecutors say he shouldn't do any prison time, according to a court filing Tuesday that describes Michael Flynn's cooperation as "substantial."

The filing by special counsel Robert Mueller provides the first details of Flynn's assistance in the Russia investigation, including that he participated in 19 interviews with prosecutors and cooperated extensively in a separate and undisclosed criminal probe. But the filing's lengthy redactions also underscore how much Mueller has yet to reveal.

It was filed two weeks ahead of Flynn's sentencing and just over a year after he became one of five Trump associates to plead guilty to lying to the FBI in the Russia probe, in his case about conversations with the Russian ambassador to the U.S.

Though prosecutors withheld specific details of Flynn's cooperation because of ongoing investigations, their filing nonetheless illustrates the breadth of information Mueller has obtained from people close to Trump as the president increasingly vents his anger at the probe — and those who cooperate with it.

This week, Trump accused his former lawyer, Michael



In this Nov. 29, 2018, photo, Michael Cohen walks out of federal court in New York. A pattern of deception by advisers to President Donald Trump, aimed at covering up Russia-related contacts during the 2016 campaign and transition, has unspooled bit by bit in criminal cases from special counsel Robert Mueller.

Cohen, of making up "stories" to get a reduced prison sentence after pleading guilty to lying to Congress and also praised longtime confidante Roger Stone for saying he wouldn't testify against Trump.

It's unclear if Trump will now turn his fury on Flynn, whom Trump bonded with during the 2016 campaign.

Trump has repeatedly lamented how Flynn's life has

been destroyed by the special counsel's probe. At one point, he tried to protect Flynn by asking former FBI Director James Comey to drop an investigation into his alleged false statements, according to a memo Comey wrote after the February 2017 encounter.

That episode, which Trump

has denied, is among those under scrutiny by Mueller as he probes whether the president attempted to obstruct the Russia investigation.

Federal sentencing guidelines recommend between zero and six months in prison, and Mueller's office said Flynn's cooperation merits no prison time.

Prosecutors said Flynn's early cooperation was "particularly valuable" because he was "one of the few people with long-term and firsthand insight" into the events under investigation. They noted his cooperation likely inspired other crucial witnesses to cooperate.

Mueller's team credited Flynn with serving 33 years in the U.S. Army, including five years in combat. But prosecutors also said the long military and government service that sets him apart from all other defendants in the investigation made his deception more troublesome.

"The defendant's extensive government service should have made him particularly aware of the harm caused by providing false information to the government, as well as the rules governing work performed on behalf of a foreign government," they wrote.

Flynn's case has stood apart from those of other Trump associates, who have aggressively criticized the investigation, sought to undermine it and, in some cases, been accused of lying even after agreeing to cooperate.

Trump's former campaign chairman, Paul Manafort, is accused of repeatedly lying to investigators since his guilty plea. Another Trump campaign aide, George Papadopoulos, is serving a 14-day prison sentence and, though he pleaded guilty to the same crime as Flynn, was denied probation because prosecutors said his cooperation was lacking.

But Flynn has largely remained out of the public eye, appearing only sporadically in media interviews or campaign events, and avoided criticizing the Mueller probe despite widespread encouragement from his supporters to go on the offensive. He has instead spent considerable time with his family and worked to position himself for a post-conviction career.

Authorities hopeful wildfire death toll lower than feared

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)— The search for people unaccounted for after the deadliest U.S. wildfire in at least a century is winding down in Northern California, with just 11 names left on a fluctuating list that once approached 1,300 and prompted fears that hundreds had died in the flames.

The declining number released late Monday came as a relief in the Paradise area as it reels from the wildfire that killed at least 85 people and destroyed nearly 14,000

Families, friends and even long-ago acquaintances have been peppering social media with pleas for help finding people. Sometimes they had no more than a first name to work with.

Authorities now say they have located more than 3,100 people who had been reported as unreachable at some point during the catastrophe.

"I think that's a pretty remarkable number at this point," Butte County Sheriff Kory Honea said.

He also has revised the death toll down to 85 from 88, saying medical examiners determined several bags of human remains were duplicates.

The Associated Press has been scouring the list of people unaccounted for and found duplicate names, misspellings and people who don't appear

People who were previously identified as dead or alive by family or friends have at times reappeared on the list.

The list of names released each day frustrated those looking for people and baffled residents whose names appeared even though they weren't

Honea repeatedly said he released the list — no matter how long at times — to reach those who may not know people were looking for them.

He said it was never intended to be a definitive account of people who were missing or possibly dead.

The AP located several people, including a couple who had decamped from the fire zone area for a previously planned vacation in Hawaii.

Patrick Holden and Nancy Barnes fled their Paradise home at the same time as most of their neighbors. They spent five terrifying hours on Nov. 8 making the normally 30-minute drive to nearby Chico.

The next day, they identified themselves as safe through Facebook, alerted their friends and then, realizing that their home was burned to the ground, headed to Hawaii for their vacation.

Holden was stunned to see his name pop up on the list two weeks after the disaster. The couple appeared on a list released Sunday as "Patrick and Nancy Holton" of Paradise.

US law against encouraging illegal immigration struck down SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—

A U.S. appeals court struck down a federal immigration law Tuesday that opponents warned could be used to criminalize a wide range of statements involving illegal immigration.

The law made it a felony for people to encourage an immigrant to enter or live in the U.S. if they know the person would be doing so illegally.

The law violates the First Amendment because it criminalizes a substantial amount of protected speech, a threejudge panel of the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals said.

The statute, for example, would make it illegal for a grandmother to urge her grandson to ignore limits on his visa by encouraging him to stay in the U.S., Judge A. Wallace Tashima said.

In addition, a speech addressed to a crowd that encouraged everyone in the country illegally to stay here could also lead to a criminal prosecution, Tashima said.

"Criminalizing expression like this threatens almost anyone willing to weigh in on the debate," he said.

A message to the Justice Department was not immediately returned.

Attorneys for the government argued that the law only prohibited conduct and a very narrow band of speech that was not protected by the U.S. Constitution. They also said it had not been used against "efforts to persuade, expressions of moral support, or abstract advocacy regarding immigration."

The law preceded the Trump administration, but it posed a greater threat now given the administration's hard line on immigration, said Kari Hong, who teaches immigration law at Boston College Law School.

Hong co-authored a brief in the case that encouraged the 9th Circuit to apply the law narrowly. She said in a phone interview on Tuesday that the law was a danger to attorneys advising immigrants about how to obtain legal residency and public officials who promote so-called sanctuary policies that limit cooperation with federal immigration au-

"What this decision does is make clear that statements of encouragement that immigrants are welcome will not be subject to criminal prosecution," she said.

The ruling came in the case of an immigration consultant in San Jose, Evelyn Sineneng-Smith, who was convicted of fraud after prosecutors said she falsely told immigrants they could obtain permanent residency under a program she knew had expired.

Sineneng-Smith was also convicted of two counts of encouraging or inducing an immigrant to remain in the country for financial gain. Sineneng-Smith appealed those convictions as unconstitutional, and the 9th Circuit panel in Tuesday's ruling overturned them.

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Asia

'War in Afghanistan is at stalemate'

WASHINGTON (AP)—The fight in Afghanistan is at a stalemate, and the significant number of Afghan troop deaths in the war is not sustainable, the Marine officer nominated to command U.S. forces in the Middle East told lawmakers on Tuesday.

Marine Lt. Gen. Kenneth McKenzie warned the Senate Armed Services Committee against an abrupt withdrawal of American forces or change in strategy despite frustration over the status of the 17-year conflict. He said he doesn't know how long it will take to develop an Afghan force capable of defending its own country.

"If we left precipitously right now, I do not believe they would be able to successfully defend their country," McKenzie said.

McKenzie said the U.S. and its allies need to keep helping the Afghans recruit and train forces to fight the Taliban's estimated 60,000 troops.

"They're fighting hard, but their losses are not going to be sustainable unless we correct this problem," McKenzie said, in one of the U.S. military's more dire assessments of the Afghan losses.

In its most recent report to Congress, in October, the special inspector general for Afghanistan said Afghan casualty numbers had been reported only in classified form since September 2017 at the request of the Afghan government. The report, however, said that the average number of casualties between May and October this year was the greatest it has ever been during similar peri-

On Oct. 30, Defense Secretary Jim Mattis said Afghan forces had more than 1,000 dead and wounded during August and September alone. Afghan President Ashraf Ghani said in a November speech that more than 28,000 of his country's forces had been killed in the last four years.

McKenzie's grim assessment comes amid growing frustration among Congress over lack of progress in the 17year Afghan conflict. Lawmakers peppered the general with questions about lack of advancement in the war, and why the Taliban has been gaining control of additional territory.

Sen. Ben Peters, D-Mich., told McKenzie that Congress members have been hearing about a political settlement for years.

"We've been at it for 17 years; 17 years is a long time," said Peters. "What are we doing differently when it comes to the Afghan security forces that we haven't done for 17 years?"

McKenzie, who is director of the Joint Staff and who served two tours in Afghanistan, acknowledged the frustration. But he said the government has opted to secure the more populated areas of the country, while ceding control of more remote, sparsely occupied regions to the insurgents.

He also voice optimism over the invigorated effort to negotiate peace with the Tali-

President Donald Trump late last month expressed a willingness to continue support for the war, asserting that the U.S. is in "very strong negotiations," an apparent reference to U.S. special envoy Zalmay Khalilzad's efforts to get the Taliban to agree to peace talks.

At the same time, however, Trump indicated he had little confidence the talks are going to succeed. "Maybe they're not. Probably they're not," he said.

Khalilzad, who was appointed in September, met Tuesday with Pakistani officials, and a Taliban official said four members from the group's political office in the Middle Eastern state of Qatar were also in the Pakistani capital. Khalilzad will also travel to Afghanistan, Russia, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Belgium, the United Arab Emirates and Qatar.

He held three days of talks with the Taliban in Qatar in November, according to the Taliban. The U.S. has not confirmed or denied direct talks.

McKenzie pushed back against suggestions from lawmakers that peace negotiations are nothing new, and have been discussed in the past. He said the latest push by Khalizad is a new opportunity for the U.S.

He said the Taliban are also "in a stalemate" and it's critical to maintain unrelenting pressure on the group to force them to the peace table.

World

US sets deadline for Russia

BRUSSELS (AP)—The United States warned Russia Tuesday it has 60 days to start complying with a landmark missile treaty or Washington could abandon the pact, creating doubts about nuclear security in Europe.

At NATO talks in Brussels, Secretary of State Mike Pompeo accused Russia of "cheating at its arms control obligations" under the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty. Pompeo warned that if Russia did not comply with the treaty's terms within 60 days, Washington could activate a sixmonth notice period for leaving the 1987 pact.

"Russia must return to full and verifiable compliance; Russia's failure to do so will result in the demise of the INF Treaty," Pompeo told reporters.

"Our nations have a choice. We either bury our head in the sand or we take common sense action in response to Russia's flagrant disregard for the expressed terms of the INF Treaty," he said.

The U.S. has shared intelligence evidence with its NATO allies that Russia's new SSC-8 ground-fired cruise missile could give Moscow the ability to launch a nuclear strike in Europe with little or no notice.

The bilateral treaty between Washington and Moscow banned all landbased cruise and ballistic missiles with a range between 500 and 5,500 kilometers (310-3,410 miles). Russia says the range of the new system does not exceed 500 kilometers.



U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, left, shakes hands with NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg prior to a meeting at NATO headquarters in Brussels, Tuesday, Dec. 4, 2018.

Pompeo said Washington "would welcome a Russian change of heart" but that he has seen no indication that Moscow is likely to comply.

U.S. allies in NATO said Tuesday they "strongly support the finding of >>> Warns it the United States that Russia is in material breach of its obligations." They called on Russia "to return

urgently to full and verifiable compliance."

While Pompeo did not announce the end of the pact, its demise seems all but certain.

"I regret that we now most likely will see the end of the INF Treaty," NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg said, adding that "no arms control agreement will work if it is only respected by one party."

Stoltenberg said the 29 NATO allies will "collectively develop responses" should the treaty be abandoned, but he declined to say what they might be.

Daryl Kimball, executive director of the Arms Control

Association, said he does not see the Russians returning to compliance under current conditions.

"They are not going to change course on the basis of a U.S. threat to withdraw," Kimball said.

may quit nuclear pact

diplomatic efforts with Russia to find a way to resolve the

He said the U.S.

needs to redouble

noncompliance issues, but he doubts this will happen.

In Moscow, Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Maria Zakharova said that "Russia strictly complies with the provisions of the treaty, and the American side is aware of that."

Russia's actions Ukraine also came under the spotlight at Tuesday's NATO meeting.

Stoltenberg accused Russia of using the Crimean Peninsula as a platform to take control of waters off eastern Ukraine, as allies struggled to find ways to dissuade Moscow from destabilizing the former Soviet republic.

Cubans can begin contract-

Japan firm warned of legal step over Korean forced laborers

TOKYO (AP)—Lawyers for Korean wartime forced laborers have demanded that a Japanese steelmaker respond to their request to discuss compensation, warning they will otherwise take steps to freeze its assets in their country.

The two lawyers on Tuesday asked Nippon Steel & Sumitomo Metal Corp. in Tokyo to respond by 5 p.m. on Dec. 24. They said if there is no response by the deadline, they will seek to freeze part of the company's assets in South Korea, including shares of PNR, its joint venture with Korean steelmaker POSCO.

South Korea's top court ordered Nippon Steel to pay 100 million won (\$87,680) each to four plaintiffs forced to work at the company during Japan's colonial rule of the Korean Peninsula. The court has made similar rulings on another Japanese company, triggering disputes between the two countries.

"If we find that (the company) doesn't want to have negotiations and communication by then, we'll launch steps to seize its assets in South Korea within that week," Lim Jae-Sung, one of the attorneys who visited the company to submit the request, told a news conference.

Lim said he and his colleagues have found out that Nippon Steel holds about 2.34 million PNR shares, which could be worth about 11 billion won (\$9.9 million). More than 3,000 intellectual properties that Nippon Steel registered in South Korea could also be frozen, he said.

Freezing assets is not their primary goal and they'd rather have negotiations, as their ultimate goal is to get justice for the victims, Lim said. He said the only survivor among the four plaintiffs is already 94 years old. "We hope the company responds sincerely," he said.

Japan's government and the companies maintain all wartime compensation issues were settled by a 1965 treaty between the governments and that South Korean rulings violate international law.

Nippon Steel said that it received the lawyers' request Tuesday but its position has not changed, and that it will consult with the government over the issue.

Last week, South Korea's Supreme Court ordered another Japanese firm, Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, to financially compensate 10 Koreans for forced labor.

The back-to-back rulings in South Korea are threatening to undermine relations with Japan, which has argued that the issue of forced laborers was settled when Tokyo and Seoul signed a treaty in 1965 that restored diplomatic ties. The rulings are expected to affect similar lawsuits pending in South Korean courts.

WORLD BRIEFS

Israeli troops kill Palestinian man in West Bank clash

JERUSALEM (AP)—Palestinian officials say Israeli troops have killed a Palestinian man during a military operation in the West Bank city of Tulkarem. Tulkarem governor Isam Abu Baker said Tuesday that 22-year-old Mohammed Habali was shot in the head "without posing any threat to the soldiers." Hundreds attended Habali's funeral in Tulkarem. The Israeli military said it could not comment on any Palestinian casualties, but confirmed that troops conducted an operation in Tulkarem in which dozens of Palestinians threw stones at soldiers. The military says soldiers used tear gas and live fire to disperse the stone throwers. Israel routinely carries out arrest and weapons confiscating raids in the West Bank that sometimes result in clashes with local Palestinians

Cuba to begin full internet access for mobile phones

HAVANA (AP)—Cuba announced Tuesday night that its citizens will be offered full internet access for mobile phones beginning this week, becoming one of the last nations to offer such service. Mayra Arevich, president of the Cuban state telecom monopoly ETECSA, went on national television to say

ing 3G service for the first time Thursday. Until now, Cubans have had access only to state-run email accounts on their phones. The Cuban government has been building a 3G network in cities across the island and some tourists, Cuban government officials and foreign businesspeople have had access to it for several years. The communist-governed island has one of the world's lowest rates of internet use but that has been expanding rapidly since Presidents Barack Obama and Raul Castro declared detente in 2014. Expansion has not slowed with President Donald Trump's partial rollback of relations.

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Environment Scientists warn new Brazil president may smother rainforest

This May 8, 2018 photo released by the Brazilian Environmental and Renewable Natural Resources Institute (Ibama) shows an illegally deforested area on Pirititi indigenous lands as Ibama agents inspect Roraima state in Brazil's Amazon basin. Scientists warn that Brazil's President-elect Jair Bolsonaro could push the Amazon rainforest past its tipping point by loosening environmental protections, with severe consequences for global climate and rainfall.

cientists warn that Brazil's president-elect could push the Amazon rainforest past its tipping point—with severe consequences for global climate and rainfall.

Jair Bolsonaro, who takes office Jan. 1, claims a mandate to convert land for cattle pastures and soybean farms, calling Brazil's rainforest pro-

tections an economic obstacle.

Brazilians on Oct. 28 elected Bolsonaro, a far-right candidate who channeled outrage at the corruption scandals of the former government and support from agribusiness groups.

Next week global leaders will meet in Poland for an international climate conference to discuss how to curb climate change, and questions about Brazil's role in shaping the fu-

ture of the Amazon rainforest after Bolsonaro's election loom large. New Brazilian government data show the rate of deforestation—a major factor in global warming—has already increased over the past year.

Brazil contains about 60 percent of the Amazon rainforest, and scientists are worried.

It's nearly impossible to overstate the importance of the Amazon rainforest to the plan-

et's living systems, said Carlos Nobre, a climate scientist at the University of Sao Paulo.

Each tree stores carbon absorbed from the atmosphere. The Amazon takes in as much as 2 billion tons of carbon dioxide a year and releases 20 percent of the planet's oxygen, earning it the nickname "the lungs of the planet."

It's also a global weathermaker.

Stretching 10 times the size of Texas, the Amazon is the world's largest rainforest. Billions of trees suck up water through deep roots and bring it up to their leaves, which release water vapor that forms a thick mist over the rainforest canopy.

This mist ascends into clouds and eventually becomes rainfall—a cycle that shapes seasons in South America and far beyond.

By one estimate, the Amazon creates 30 to 50 percent of its own rainfall.

Now the integrity of all of three functions—as a carbon sink, the Earth's lungs, and a rainmaker—hangs in the balance.

On the campaign trail, Bolsonaro promised to loosen protections for areas of the Brazilian Amazon designated as indigenous lands and nature reserves, calling them impediments to economic growth. "All these reserves cause problems to development," he told supporters.

He has also repeatedly talked about gutting the power of the environmental ministry to enforce existing green laws.

"If Bolsonaro keeps his campaign promises, deforestation of the Amazon will probably increase quickly—and the effects will be felt everywhere on the planet," said Paulo Artaxo, a professor of environmental physics at the University of Sao Paulo.

Bolsonaro's transition team did not respond to an interview request from the Associated Press.

Brazil was once seen as a global environmental success story. Between 2004 and 2014, stricter enforcement of laws to safeguard the rainforest—aided by regular satellite monitoring and protections for lands designated reserves for indigenous peoples—sharply curbed the rate of deforestation, which peaked in the early 2000s at about 9,650 square miles a year (25,000 square kilometers).

After a political crisis engulfed Brazil, leading to the

2016 impeachment of president Dilma Rousseff, enforcement faltered. Ranchers and farmers began to convert more rainforest to pastureland and cropland. Between 2014 and 2017, annual deforestation doubled to about 3,090 square miles (8,000 square kilometers). Most often, the trees and underbrush cut down are simply burned, directly releasing carbon dioxide, said Artaxo.

"In the Brazilian Amazon, far and away the largest source of deforestation is industrial agriculture and cattle ranching," said Emilio Bruna, an ecologist at the University of Florida in Gainesville.

Now observers are parsing Bolsonaro's campaign statements and positions as a congressman to anticipate what's next for the Amazon.

Bolsonaro—who some call "tropical Trump" because of some similarities to U.S. President Donald Trump—is a former army captain with a knack for channeling outrage and generating headlines. As a federal congressman for 27 years, he led legislative campaigns to unravel land protections for indigenous people and to promote agribusiness. He also made derogatory comments about minorities, women, and LGBT people.

Much of his support comes from business and farming interests.

"These farmers are not invaders, they are producers," said congressman and senator-elect Luiz Carlos Heinze, a farmer and close ally of Bolsonaro. He blamed past "leftist administrations" for promoting indigenous rights at the expense of farmers and ranchers.

"Brazil will be the biggest farming nation on Earth during Bolsonaro's years," said Heinze.

Indigenous-rights advocates are worried about the new direction signaled. "Bolsonaro has repeatedly said that indigenous territories in the Amazon should be opened up for mining and agribusiness, which goes completely in the opposite direction of our Constitution," said Adriana Ramos, public policy coordinator at Social Environmental Institute in Brasilia, a non-governmental group.

In a Nov. 1 postelection interview with Catholic TV, Bolsonaro said, "We intend to protect the environment, but without creating difficulties for our progress."

Bolsonaro has repeatedly

said that Brazil should withdraw from the Paris Climate Accord, a treaty his predecessor signed in 2016 committing to reduce carbon emissions 37 percent over 2005 levels by 2030. After the election, he has publicly wavered.

Meanwhile he has named a climate-change denier, Ernesto Araujo, to become the next foreign minister.

Nelson Ananias Filho, sustainability coordinator at Brazil's National Agriculture and Cattle Raising Confederation, which backed Bolsonaro's campaign, said, "Brazil's agribusiness will adapt to whatever circumstances come."

Whether or not Brazil formally remains in the Paris Climate Accord, the only way for the country to make its emission targets is to completely stop deforestation by 2030 and to reduce agricultural emissions, said Nobre, the climate scientist. "If Bolsonaro keeps moving in the current direction, that's basically impossible."

There's another danger lurking in deforestation.

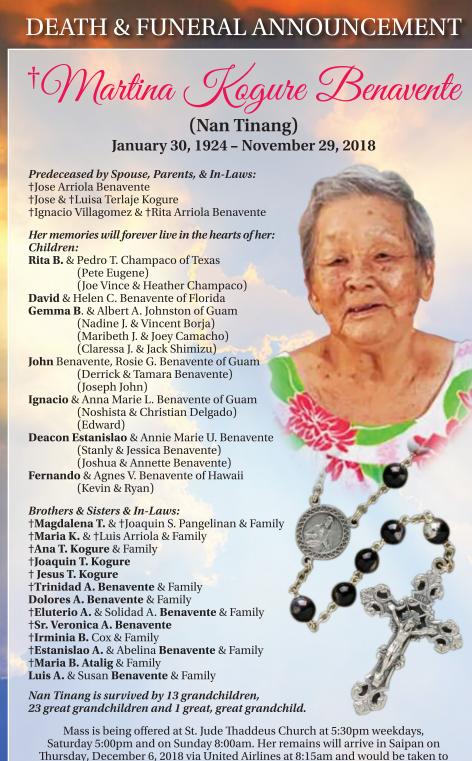
Aside from the oceans, tropical forests are the most important regions on the planet for putting water vapor in the air, which eventually becomes rainfall. "It's why we have rain in the American Midwest and other inland areas—it's not just the Amazon, but it's the largest tropical rainforest," said Bill Laurance, a tropical ecologist at James Cook University in Cairns, Australia.

Carlos Nobre and Thomas Lovejoy, an environmental scientist at George Mason University, have estimated that the "tipping point for the Amazon system" is 20 to 25 percent deforestation.

Without enough trees to sustain the rainfall, the longer and more pronounced dry season could turn more than half the rainforest into a tropical savannah, they wrote in February in the journal Science Advances.

If the rainfall cycle collapses, winter droughts in parts of Brazil, Uruguay, Paraguay, and Argentina could devastate agriculture, they wrote. The impacts may even be felt as far away as the American Midwest, said Laurance.

Bolsonaro's rhetoric about potentially dismantling the environmental ministry and rolling back indigenous rights worries Nobre who says, "I am a scientist, but I am also a Brazilian citizen, and a citizen of the planet." (AP)



Mass is being offered at St. Jude Thaddeus Church at 5:30pm weekdays, Saturday 5:00pm and on Sunday 8:00am. Her remains will arrive in Saipan on Thursday, December 6, 2018 via United Airlines at 8:15am and would be taken to CHCC Morgue. On Friday, December 7, 2018 her remains would be escorted from CHCC Morgue at 7:30am to Mt. Carmel Cathedral Church for Responso, Holy Rosary, and viewing. Celebration of the Mass of Christian Burial will be offered 11:00am followed by interment at Chalan Kanoa Cemetery.

We extend our sincerest humble gratitude to all for your prayers and love.

From the children of †Martina Kogure Benavente (Nan Tinang) and families

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2018 19 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Life & Style

Actor-comedian Kevin Hart will host 2019 Oscars

LOS ANGELES (AP)— Kevin Hart has a new job—he will host the 2019 Academy Awards, a role the prolific

longtime dream.

Hart announced his selection for the 91st Oscars in an lowed up with a tweet that

actor-comedian says fulfills a Instagram statement Tuesday. The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences folwelcomed him "to the family."

The announcement came hours after trade publication The Hollywood Reporter

job in Hollywood." Hart clearly doesn't feel that way, writing on Instagram that it has been on his list of dream jobs for years. Hart

posted a story calling

the Oscars host posi-

tion "the least wanted

be broadcast Feb. 24 on ABC. "I am blown away simply

because this has been a goal

The 2019 Oscars will

on my list for a long time...To be able to join the legendary list of host that have graced this stage is unbelievable," Hart wrote. "I know my mom is smiling from ear to ear right now.

"I will be sure to make sure this years Oscars are a special one," Hart wrote.

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Drake tops Spotify's 2018 list with 8.2 billion streams

NEW YORK (AP)—It's no surprise, but Drake is the king of Spotify: He is the platform's most-streamed artist of the year globally. Spotify announced Tuesday that the rapper earned 8.2 billion streams in 2018. He also has the year's most-streamed album and song with "Scorpion" and "God's Plan." Drake is also Spotify's most-streamed artist of alltime. Following Drake on the 2018 list of top artists are Post Malone, XXXTentacion, J Balvin and Ed Sheeran, who was Spotify's most-streamed artist last year. No women made the Top 5, but Ariana Grande ranks first among female artists globally on Spotify. She's followed by Dua Lipa, Cardi B, Taylor Swift and Camila Cabello. Drake not only has the year's top song, his hit "In My Feelings" came in fifth on the list. "Sad!" by XXX-Tentacion, who died in June, came in second. Malone has the third and fourth most-streamed songs with "Rockstar" and "Psycho." Malone's "Beerbongs & Bentleys" is the second most-streamed album behind Drake's "Scorpion." XXXTentacion, Lipa and Sheeran round out the Top 5.

'Black Panther,' ' A Star Is Born' among **AFI Awards honorees**

LOS ANGELES (AP)—"Black Panther," "A Star Is Born" and "Mary Poppins Returns" are among the American Film Institute's top 10 films of the year. AFI announced its selections for the 19th AFI Awards Tuesday, recognizing works deemed culturally and artistically significant by a jury of AFI trustees, scholars and critics. The selected films include the aforementioned blockbusters, the horror

film "A Quiet Place," "The Favourite," Barry Jenkins' James Baldwin adaptation "If Beale Street Could Talk," Bo Burnham's coming-of-age film "Eighth Grade," "BlacKkKlansman," "First Reformed," and "Green Book." The organization is also giving a special award to Alfonso Cuaron's "Roma," which did not fit the criteria for American films. AFI also recognizes 10 television shows, including "Atlanta" and "The Americans." The honorees will be recognized at a Los Angeles luncheon on Jan. 4.

Report details new allegations of Moonves' sexual misconduct

The New York Times says a report by CBS lawyers outlines more allegations of sexual misconduct by longtime chief Les Moonves. The report alleges that Moonves destroyed evidence and misled investigators as he attempted to protect his reputation and severance payments. The report was prepared by lawyers the network hired to determine if Moonves violated the terms of his employment agreement. The New York Times said Tuesday the 59-page report is to be presented to CBS's board before the company's annual meeting next week. It says Moonves could be denied his \$120 million severance package after he had to quit in September amid numerous allegations of sexual misbehavior. The investigators reported they received "multiple reports" about a network employee who was "on call" to perform oral sex on Moonves. (AP)

Pete Davidson addresses bullying after Ariana Grande breakup

NEW YORK (AP)—Pete Davidson says he's not going to "kill myself."

Instagram post following his shortlived engagement with Ariana Grande. The 25-year-old "Saturday Night Live" cast member says he's been getting bullied online and in public for nine months. But Davidson says he's spoken about being suicidal publicly "only in the hopes that it will bring awareness and help kids like myself who don't want to be on this earth." Davidson writes, "No matter how hard the internet or anyone tries to make me kill myself, I won't." Grande responded that she cares "deeply about Pete and his health." She asked people "to please be gentler with others." Grande references the failed engagement in her new hit, "Thank U, Next."

Davidson is breaking his silence in an

'Nutcracker' prince proposes to stunned Dewdrop Fairy

WICHITA, Kan. (AP)—The prince in the "Nutcracker" had a special present for his favorite ballerina during a performance of the holiday classic in Kansas. The Wichita Eagle reports that Allison Evans was playing the Dewdrop Fairy in the Metropolitan Ballet production Sunday in Wichita when her boyfriend, Dalton Rupp-Meinert, dropped to one knee and proposed. The moment was captured on video . Even though he'd never danced ballet in his life, Rupp-Meinert broached the idea with choreographer Jill Landrith before rehearsals began this summer. They hatched a plan to make him the prince. Evans says she thought the decision was "hilarious." Rupp-Meinert says the thing that made him the most nervous was remembering the choreography, not the proposal. The crowd included about 40 to 50 of their relatives and friends.

Netflix maintains high-priced relationship with 'Friends'

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)— Netflix will still be there for fans of the old TV series "Friends," but maintaining the relationship will come at a steep price.

The video streaming service paid \$100 million to keep showing "Friends" in the U.S. through 2019, according to a report in the New York Times. That's more than triple the \$30 million a year Netflix had been paying for the long-running TV series about six 20-something friends in New York. The report cited two unidentified people with direct knowledge of Netflix's deal with the series' rights holder, AT&T.

Netflix tweeted that it will continue showing "Friends," but didn't disclose financial details. The Los Gatos, California, company declined further comment Tuesday.

Netflix's willingness to pay so much for a series that ended in 2004 is the latest sign of intensifying competition in video streaming.

Besides current rivals such as Hulu and Amazon, Netflix is also facing a significant threat next year when Walt Disney Co. plans to roll out a video streaming service featuring its popular movies and TV shows. As part of its move into streaming, Disney will be pulling much of the entertainment that it has licensed to Netflix for years.

That setback may have figured into Netflix's calculations about how much "Friends" is worth to its service. But Netflix is still spending far more on original programming such as "Stranger Things" and "The Crown" to distinguish itself from its rivals. The strategy has forced Netflix to take on billions of dollars in debt to pay for the programming, but it has helped the company build the world's largest video streaming service with 137 million subscribers.

AT&T also is planning to offer a video streaming service, and there is nothing in its deal with Netflix that prevents it from featuring "Friends" on that service beginning in 2020, according to the Times.

Mom makes travel plans without being invited to visit

EAR ABBY: I gave birth to my daughter three months ago, after 44 grueling hours of labor. My mother, assuming I would want her in the delivery room, booked her flight, flew across the country and stayed at my house without asking when I'd like her to

During her stay, she made comments about how she had flown 2,000 miles to "dog-sit" for me, that she knew she wasn't wanted, and had she known my daughter wasn't going to come on time (I was induced), she wouldn't have "wasted her vacation" to fly in early. The entire visit was miserable.

Without consulting my husband and me, she has now booked a flight to come and stay with us for Christmas. Christmas is my favorite holiday, and I'm dreading the thought of her being here and worried this visit will be just as awful as the last. I'd like my daughter's first Christmas to be a happy occasion.

I asked my mother to change her flights and come in after the holiday, only to be met with the accusation "you're being selfish" from her and my stepfather. How do I tell them that I don't want them here for Christmas while minimizing hurt feelings? PUSHED TOO FAR IN PENNSYLVANIA

DEAR PUSHED: It appears you not only have a pushy mother, but also one who has no filter. When she made the comments she did when she came to "help" after the delivery, did you tell her how offended you were? Or were you so weak from the struggle to give life that you wilted? If you didn't tell her how you felt, you have a communication problem.

Give your mother one more chance. Welcome her and your stepfather at Christmas and, if she makes a demeaning or unkind comment, CALL her on it! And when you do, tell her that in the future you and your husband prefer to invite your houseguests rather than have them descend upon you.

DEAR ABBY: Because my husband and I are reaching advanced years, we know we will soon have to downsize to a senior living facility. In anticipation, we have begun distributing keepsakes we have accumulated over the years. Many were gifts with special meaning. Some are heirlooms that have been passed down from previous generations.

When I helped my son with his garage sale recently, I was shocked to discover several of the keepsakes on display. I didn't know how to react, but I did speak to him about it. Apparently, he doesn't value them! How should I handle future distribution of keepsakes, as there are more of them, some of which I had intended for him and his family? Apparently, his wife and son also have no interest in them.

SENTIMENTAL IN WISCONSIN

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



DEAR SENTIMENTAL: You now have two choices. You can either give the items as gifts to other family members, after first ensuring that they will be appreciated and treasured, or sell them and use the money to cover any expenses that may come up in the future.

P.S. If they have historical value, consider donating them to a museum or your state historical society.

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order "How to Be Popular." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

20 THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2018 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

I HOPE I DIDN'T FORGET WANT TO READ MY ALL THAT ? THIS IS ALPHABETIZED SANTA ? SOMETHING WANT.





By Bill Waterson

Garfield®



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The Duplex By Bryan Basset



By Glenn McCoy

By Jim Davis



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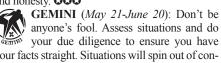
CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Lindsay Price, 42; Judd Apatow, 51; Tom Hulce, 65; JoBeth Williams, 70.

Happy Birthday: Emotions will take over this year, sending you on all sorts of adventures that can bring good and bad results, depending on how gullible and trusting you are. Don't be too eager to take anyone's word as gospel. Take action based on what you know is factual, and you will build a positive and solid future with dreams of progress. Your numbers are 4, 13, 18, 25, 31, 44, 47.



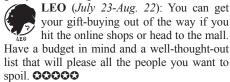
ARIES (March 21-April 19): Look for a way to make your money grow. Get your investments in order before the end of the year. Don't let someone mislead you when dealing with your financial affairs. Take care of personal business yourself. 2000

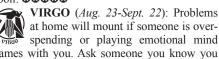
TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Let the changes going on around you inspire you to get things done. Taking action now will lead to greater stability as you head into next year. Make improvements to important relationships by extending a helping hand, good advice and honesty. OOC



your due diligence to ensure you have your facts straight. Situations will spin out of control easily if you aren't current on what's true and what isn't.

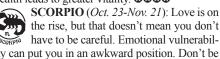
CANCER (June 21-July 22): Stay on course and get things done. Once you feel satisfied with what you've accomplished, you'll enjoy downtime with friends. A change of pace toward the end of the day will be relaxing and give you something to look forward to.





games with you. Ask someone you know you can confide in for suggestions, and you'll find a solution that works well for you. Positive change is apparent. 👀

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Learn from mistakes, and don't fall for a sales pitch that is built on empty promises. If you want to make physical improvements, start with revising your diet and exercise routine. Good health leads to greater vitality.



ity can put you in an awkward position. Don't be too revealing or move too fast. Make romance meaningful and lasting. SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):

Look over your options carefully and decipher what's fact and what's fiction. Don't let emotions interfere with the decisions you make about what you should be doing. Listen to reason and avoid indulgent behavior. A change

of attitude is apparent.

EUGENIA

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Evaluate what's transpired and consider what you would like to see unfold. An unexpected change will turn out to be in your best interest. Keep

a close watch over what others do, and if something doesn't feel right, distance vourself. AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Focus

on getting things done. How you earn your living should be your priority. Don't make physical changes or back yourself into a corner when dealing with someone who is manipulative. Put your responsibilities and your health first. OOOO

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Stick close to work or home. Travel will be met with unexpected expenses or delays. If you want to do business, use technology to converse. A problem with an authority figure, institution or government agency will set you back. ••

Birthday Baby: You are intuitive, supportive and spirited. You are proactive and ambitious.

To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

12/06

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Difficulty Level ★★★

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer									
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WONDERWORD OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY; All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDELEWORD.

MEDIEVAL NAMES Solution: 8 letter SNEUADLITAMORBA ENDSLVICQYRNEHL RYIAORLUANDAKEI ALAWIRICPETERLA POLZONICEREDEEN H D E A N B H A I C N H A W O NDNDARXNEIEYYR NEAEDAAEFABLNSO AWCRBLLATLOEATN IGIEVORHYRRNDOA G A L A V F E B R ① I E E N E N L D E E E B I 🖹 A N S C O L A O N L N Y A ① E X I A T D E REEASHERENIMSAJ BENEDICTHEALYSN

© 2018 Andrews McMod Syndicution — www.wondorword.car Adelaide, Alexia, Alianor, Alice, Alys, Arabella, Asher, Atheena, Beatrix, Benedict, Benevolence, Borin, Brangian, Brom, Cedany, Cedric, Dain, Eleanor, Farfelee, Fendrel, Gwendolynn, Hadrian, Hélenè, Helewys, Henry, Jasmine, Krea, Leo, Luanda, Matilida, Peter, Quinn, Rose, Sadon, Seraphina, Sybbyl, Terrowin, Thea, Tristan, Ulric, Xalvador, Zane Yesterday's Answer: Kids

Treasuries 13 through 34 can be purchased online in time for the holidays at WonderWordBooks.com or call 1-800-642-6480.

STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touchtone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

52

55

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2018 21

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WHATZIT Solution: Overexcited

RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

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Saipan Tribune also offers a complete 5-day run of liner ads, for as low as \$15 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

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REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

WHALL

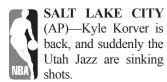
Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.



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Jazz beat Spurs, get first home victory



"His confidence is contagious," Donovan Mitchell said. "His presence just gives us spacing and helps every-

Mitchell scored 20 points, Rudy Gobert had 18 points and 10 rebounds, and the Utah Jazz beat the San Antonio Spurs 139-105 on Tues-

Korver scored 15 points in his first home game since he returned to the Jazz, and Derrick Favors added 14 points as Utah won for the first time at home in nearly a month. The Jazz beat Boston 123-115 on Nov. 9 but have been on the road much of the season and haven't found a rhythm at home.

"He gets his shot off in a half a second. It helps us to have another guy who can really space the floor and knock them down," said Joe Ingles, who had 13 points.

Jakob Poeltl scored a careerhigh 20 points for the Spurs. DeMar DeRozan and LaMarcus Aldridge each scored 16 points, and San Antonio fell to 1-13 when Aldridge fails to reach the 20-point mark.

"It doesn't really matter," Poeltl said. "If I get a career high in a 30-point loss or whatever, it doesn't feel great. We're just not aggressive enough. We're very passive."

The Spurs lost by more than 30 points just five times in Gregg Popovich's first 1,758 regular-season games as head coach. It has now happened three times in the last four games.

"We're very challenged defensively," Popovich said.

The Spurs cut their deficit to



San Antonio Spurs forward Davis Bertans, left, and Utah Jazz guard Kyle Korver battle for a loose ball in the first half of an NBA basketball game, Tuesday, Dec. 4, 2018, in Salt Lake City.

67-53 early in the third quarter, but less than three minutes later, Mitchell and Ingles hit back-to-back 3-pointers and the Jazz moved out to an 84-59 advantage.

Kings 122, Suns 105

In Phoenix, the Sacramento Kings couldn't have asked for an easier lead-in to a threegame Eastern swing.

Buddy Hield scored 20 points in 18 minutes and the Kings buried the Suns early for the easy win.

De'Aaron Fox had 16 points and seven assists. Seven players scored in double figures for Sacramento, including Bogdan Bogdanovic off the bench with 14 points, and no starter played more than 27 minutes.

Sacramento has won two straight after losing its previous three.

"I just found the right spots, right time and my teammates were able to hit me," Hield said. "Everybody did a great job of spreading the ball around."

Rookie De'Anthony Melton led Phoenix with a career-high 21 points. Trevor Ariza and Josh Jackson scored 14 each for the Suns, who have lost six straight and nine of 10.

Mavericks 111. **Trail Blazers 102**

In Dallas, Luka Doncic scored 21 points and Wesley Matthews added 17 as the Dallas Mavericks won for the ninth time in 11 games, beating the Portland Trail Blazers.

DeAndre Jordan added 12 points and 17 rebounds for Dallas, which won its eighth straight at home for the first time since its championship season of 2010-11.

Doncic, who missed his first game Sunday with a right hip strain, scored 14 in the second half and finished with nine rebounds.

Pacers 96, Bulls 90

In Indianapolis, Myles Turner matched his season high with 18 points and added 11 rebounds and five blocked shots as Indiana spoiled the debut of new Chicago coach Jim Boylen.

Darren Collison had 23 points and eight rebounds, Bojan Bogdanovic scored 14 points and Tyreke Evans finished with 10 for Indiana. Domantis Sabonis added nine points and 11 rebounds off the bench for the Pacers.

Lauri Markkanen led the Bulls with 21 points and 10 rebounds. Justin Holiday, facing off against his brother, Indiana rookie Aaron Holiday, finished with 15 points. Chicago has lost seven straight games.

Magic 105, Heat 90

In Miami, Aaron Gordon scored 20 points and grabbed 13 rebounds, Nikola Vucevic finished with 19 points and 10 rebounds and Orlando beat the Heat.

Terrence Ross added 19 off the bench for the Magic, who were 14 for 28 from 3-point range. Evan Fournier scored 13 and DJ Augustin had 11 for Orlando.

Justise Winslow scored 14 for Miami, which had won two straight — and still hasn't had a three-game winning streak this season. Kelly Olynyk scored 13, Hassan Whiteside had 12 and Dwyane Wade and James Johnson each added 11 for the Heat.

Whiteside left the Heat bench with 40.5 seconds left and walked to the locker room. He didn't play in the fourth quarter, and has been unhappy when that's occurred in the past.

Berhalter promises pressing, attack-minded team



NEW YORK (AP)—Gregg Berhalter promises to transform the U.S.

national team into a pressing, attack-minded group the Americans rarely have been.

"We want to see ball circulation, breaking lines, creating goal-scoring opportunities," he said at his introduction Tuesday. "That should be the DNA of this team."

The 45-year-old is the first American to coach the national team after playing for it at a World Cup. He spent the last five years coaching Major League Soccer's Columbus Crew, which reached the playoffs four times despite a small payroll but failed to win any titles.

"Gregg isn't just the right

choice, Gregg is the best choice," U.S. Soccer Federation President Carlos Cordeiro said. "He will push our men's team forward and with an identity and approach that will be uniquely and fiercely American."

The job had been held by Dave Sarachan on an interim basis for 14 months since Bruce Arena quit after the shocking failure to qualify for this year's World Cup. Sunil Gulati made the decisions to hire Bob Bradley in 2006, Jurgen Klinsmann in 2011 and Arena in 2016 after consulting within the USSF, but the federation established new procedures after Cordeiro replaced Gulati last February.

Former midfielder Earnie Stewart, who played alongside Berhalter on the national team, was hired in June for the new position of men's national team general manager. Stewart started his job in August and picked Berhalter, a decision ratified Saturday by the USSF board.

"Today for us is another example of the change that we're bringing to U.S. Soccer. That includes making sure that soccer operations are run by soccer experts," Cordeiro said.

The U.S. often has resorted to counterattacking to go along with a never-give-up attitude and superior conditioning. Persistence and perseverance dissipated among an aging core in the last four-year cycle.

Sarachan gave debuts to 23 players in 12 matches, and Berhalter will decide what veterans to integrate among the team's emerging core of Christian Pulisic, Tyler Adams and Weston McKennie, all 20 and younger, and even rawer players such Tim Weah and Josh Sargent, both 18.

Stewart said part of success will be "making sure that the way we play, that it's identified to our fans so that what they see on the field is what they want to see.

"The idea is that we're an attacking-based team that want to create goal-scoring scoring opportunities by disorganizing the opponent," Berhalter said. "Consistently over my time in Columbus, we've done it through build up, right, where we start the ball with the goalie in the back. Teams try to press us, we play through them."

Beckham to convince Neymar to sign with Inter Miami CF



MIAMI— ◆ ◆ David Beckham's move to Major League

Soccer in 2007 was a watershed moment for the league.

Part of the deal to get Beckham to come to America to play professional soccer was an opportunity to invest in an MLS expansion team when his playing career was completed. In 2014, Beckham exercised that option and Club Internacional de Fútbol Miami (Inter Miami CF for short) was born.

With the clock ticking toward Inter Miami CF's inaugural season in 2020, Beckham is on the lookout for possible players for his new team and he's already trying to recruit Neymar, the 26-year-old Brazilian star who currently plays for French club Paris Saint-Germain.

The conversation with Neymar is light-hearted, but the idea isn't totally out of the realm of possibility for

Beckham. Having played for some of the most prestigious clubs in the world, Beckham is well-connected. It was an outrageous move by MLS and the Los Angeles Galaxy to bring Beckham to the U.S. to play. A decade later, the idea of bringing Neymar over to play for Inter Miami CF no longer seems preposterous.

Under a rule nicknamed "The Beckham Rule," MLS clubs have brought over World Cup winners such as Thierry Henry (New York Red Bulls), Kaka (Orlando City SC), Bastian Schweinsteiger (Chicago Fire), and David Villa and Andrea Pirlo (New York City FC). This season, Beckham's former teammate with the England national team-Wayne Rooney (D.C. United)-also began playing in the league thanks to "The Beckham Rule."

So, consider Neymar the first major soccer star to be "linked" to Inter Miami CF.

Corbin, Nats agree on \$140M, 6-year deal

Mets GM vows more moves after adding Cano and Diaz

NEW YORK (AP) — Wearing red Santa's helper hats, Robinson Cano and Edwin Diaz got right to work for the New York Mets—as elves, handing out presents to school kids during the team's holiday party at Citi Field.

A day after the club added the star second baseman and ace closer, new general manager Brodie Van Wagenen offered a gift to all Mets fans, too.

"We did not make this move to have it be our last move," Van Wagenen vowed Tuesday.

Chimed in Mets chief operating officer Jeff Wilpon: "I think there's a lot more that's going to happen."

Still too early to tell if that means something major, such as a swing at free agent slugger Bryce Harper. That was the buzz on radio talk station WFAN, where the seven-player trade with Seattle drew strong, mixed reaction from Mets rooters.

Van Wagenen, however, seemed to throw shade on the notion that pitcher Noah Syndergaard was going anywhere. Despite recent speculation the Mets might trade him, the GM said it would take "very special circumstances for us to even consider" swapping Syndergaard.

Sporting the No. 24 he wore when he helped the Yankees take the 2009 World Series, Cano said he was pumped to play for the Mets.

"Happy to be back in New York," he said, later adding, "win another ring, especially on this side of the city."

The 36-year-old Cano is halfway through a \$240 million, 10-year contract that deal was negotiated by Van Wagenen in his prior job as a player agent. The Mets are responsible for \$100 million of the \$120 million remaining.



WASHING-TON (AP)— Add Patrick

Corbin to the All-Star starting staff the Washington Nationals have assembled.

A person familiar with the deal said the left-handed Corbin has agreed to a sixvear contract with the Nationals, pending a physical exam. Another person familiar with the terms said the contract is for \$140 million.

The people confirmed the details of the agreement to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity Tuesday because nothing had been announced by the team.

Corbin's contract would include \$10 million in deferred money, one of the people said.

Corbin, who has played his entire major league career for the Arizona Diamondbacks, joins a rotation in Washington that already includes threetime Cy Young Award winner Max Scherzer and Stephen Strasburg. Corbin was an NL All-Star selection in 2013 and



this year; Scherzer has been picked for each of the past six Midsummer Classics; Stras-

The 29-year-old Corbin is coming off his best season in the majors, going 11-7 with a 3.15 ERA while pitching 200 innings for the second time in

burg has made it three times.

his career.

He finished fifth in voting for NL Cy Young honors; Scherzer was second as he came up just shy of a third consecutive prize.

Corbin was considered the top starter available in an elite free-agent class and became Arizona Diamondbacks starting pitcher Patrick Corbin (46) pitches against the Texas Rangers during the first inning of a baseball game Tuesday, Aug. 14, 2018, in Arlington, Texas.

the first player among them to sign a big money, multiyear deal this offseason.

Still on the market is right fielder Bryce Harper, the 2012 NL Rookie of the Year and 2015 NL MVP for the Nationals. Washington made a late-season offer to Harper in a bid to keep him, but that was not accepted.

Corbin recently made the rounds of free-agent suitors, including meeting with Nationals owner Mark Lerner and general manager Mike Rizzo.

The signing of Corbin who had drawn interest from the New York Yankees and Philadelphia Phillies, among other clubs, and was expected to draw offers of at least \$20 million a year—could be a signal that the Nationals are moving on from Harper.

CHRISTMAS

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will be announced later.

Details on how to register for the Christmas Island Relay have yet to be finalized, but NMA is expected to follow the same rules (team event) it has implemented in the past several years. NMA has required each squad to have five members and those racing in the open mixed division must have one runner in the 16 years old or younger age group, a female, or 40 years old or older. In the youth mixed division (U16 age group), a team has to have at least one female or U12 runner. For the course, each member will alternately run one mile.

Last year, Agape Christian School A topped the south to north race after making it to the Last Command Post in 1:26:30. Peter Wang, Jonthan Xiong, William Chen, Leo Li, and David Cai were Agape

A's runners and they beat the Keith Longuski-led TRAC 1. Longuski, a perennial winner of long distance races on Saipan, teamed up with Charlie Sendin, David Brook, Heather Taylor, and Josh David Joson and they clocked in at 1:28:21 to take the runnerup honors. Rinty FC, who had Rintaro Miyawaki, Joshua Abragan, Christopher Aninzo, Anthony Fruit, and Clayton Izuka as members, rounded out the Top 3 in the open division after recording 1:29:50.

In the youth division, Kaith Lynn Chavez, Mark Esalan, Taka and Ichiro Borja, and Jan Matthew Milo of TanHoldings were the top placers after combining for 1:34:08, just 10 seconds ahead of Agape B.

Meanwhile, the island relay is also open to solo runners. Ronald Villafria (1:43.30), Max Simian (1:50:24) and Edmond Bata (1:54:19) were the Top 3 solo finishers in last year's race.

Rams back on top; Saints slip to No. 2



(AP)—The Los Angeles Rams are back in a familiar place: the top spot

in the NFL.

The Rams reclaimed the No. 1 position in the latest AP Pro32 poll . They received all 12 first-place votes and 384 points in balloting Tuesday by media members who regularly cover the NFL.

The Rams (11-1), the NFC West champions, have the league's best record and are a strong contender to make a run at the Super Bowl.

The New Orleans Saints slipped to No. 2 after losing in Dallas last week.

"Get revenge against Bucs?" asked Fox Sports' John Czarnecki. The Saints head to Tampa this week to face the Buccaneers, the only other team to beat New Orleans this season.

The Kansas City Chiefs stayed at No. 3 after beating Oakland. The Chiefs, who at 10-2 have the AFC's best record, will attempt to reach the Super Bowl without the NFL's reigning rushing champion. The Chiefs released running back Kareem Hunt on Friday after TMZ posted a video of him shoving and kicking a woman in a Cleveland hotel in February.

Also staying in place were the New England Patriots at No. 4. The Patriots are closing in on their nearly annual AFC East title as they head to Miami to face the Dolphins on Sunday.

The league's hottest team,

the Houston Texans, moved up two spots to climb into the top five. The Texans beat Cleveland last week for their ninth win a row.

Another team playing well, the Los Angeles Chargers, kept their spot at No. 6 after a secondhalf rally on the road to beat the Pittsburgh Steelers 33-30. The Chargers have won eight of nine and will have an easier matchup on Sunday as they host the reeling Cincinnati Bengals.

"The Chargers proved they are a different team than in years past with a come-frombehind win in Pittsburgh," said Jenny Vrentas of The Monday Morning Quarterback. "Anthony Lynn is a Coach of the Year candidate."

The Steelers stayed at No. 8 and will face Oakland on Sunday without running back James Conner, who has a sprained left ankle.

The Chicago Bears slipped two spots to No. 7 after losing in overtime to the New York Giants. The Bears will have a challenge on Sunday night when they host the Rams.

The Seattle Seahawks, who inched up a spot to No. 9, will close Week 14 by hosting Minnesota on Monday night in a game that could go a long way toward determining the NFC wild-card race. The Vikings dropped two spots to fall out of the top 10 at No. 11 after losing at New England.

"Offense is out of whack and the defense isn't as dominant as in recent seasons," Alex Marvez of Sirius XM said of the Vikings.

SBA

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teams that will be playing in the two categories. Interested players who want to sign up for the 2019 season must be 21 years or older. Registration fees are \$30/per player for the first team they sign up with, followed by \$5 for each additional squad. Sponsors fee is \$50 per team. Each squad is allowed to have a minimum of 4 players and maximum of 8.

"Players interested in joining the 2019 season of the SBA Open 8-Ball League can register online at pacificamusement. com or in person at our office in Middle Road. next to Brabu Pharmacy," said Ellama, who is the league secretary.

Meanwhile, SBA capped the 2018 season with an awards banquet held last Oct. 21 at the Charley's Cabaret of Pacific Islands Club. Spirits were high at the awards ceremony, as league participants, their families, and sponsors cess of the league.

Wildboyz for the Tuesday League, while Brannon's Jam Shooters had the honor of hoisting the contested hard-

non's Docomo Hustlers, 9

Eleven Straight Black Ball, and IT&E Amari's Destroyers rounded out the Top 3 finishers in the Tuesday League, while IT&E Amari's Homeboys, 9 Eleven 8 Black Ball, and Brannon's Jam Shooters made it to the podium in the Thursday League.

For the individual awards, the Finals Most Valuable Player trophies went to Brannons Docomo Hustlers' Rowel Mariano (Tuesday League) and IT&E Amari's Homeboyz's Cesar Sangalang (Thursday League). Mariano also took the regular season MVP in the Tuesday League, sharing the honors with 9 Eleven Marianas Water's Jerry Soriano, while 9 Eleven MJD Warriors' Roel Barretto got the similar award in the Thursday League.

Completing the list of individual awardees were Top Gun winners Mervin Sahagun of 9 Eleven Straight Black Ball and Rey Hermogenes of 9 Eleven 8 Black Ball for the Tuesday and Thursday divisions, respectively, and Rookie of the Year Tata Hamoy of 9 Eleven Straight Black Ball and Jay Torres of the VFW Assasins.

SBA also handed out special awards (sportsmanship) with Brannon's 670 Builders and VFW Assassins winning in the Tuesday and Thursday divisions, while MARPAC and Sands Bar were given plagues of appreciation for their support to the league.

CAROL

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Lee's total is now 190 (from 135 before she left the ITF/ OTF regional training facility in Fiji to compete in three countries). In singles, the 25 she got in the Mundial Juvenil Yucatan, gave her 245 ranking points. The CNMI bet now has a combined 292.5 points and is ranked No. 173 in the world as of Dec. 3.

For her record, Lee owns a 21-10 singles mark this season and 16-9 in doubles. Overall.

the CNMI junior player has 90-39 career singles and 57-37 career doubles records.

Meanwhile, Lee concluded her 2018 season vesterday after competing in the Orange Bowl in Florida. Unfortunately, she lost both her singles and doubles matches in the Grade A event. American Ali Despain defeated Lee in the first round of the singles event, 7-6 (6), 6-2, while in the doubles, the Commonwealth bet and Cyprus' Eleni Louka were beaten by Alexa Noel and Nikki Redelijk of the U.S., 6-4, 6-3.

gathered to celebrate both individual and team accomplishments, as well as the suc-The highly coveted Budweiser Cup championship trophy was awarded to 9 Eleven

ware for the Thursday League. In the regular season, Bran-



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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Carol hikes ranking points

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO $roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com$

he CNMI's Carol Lee earned ranking points from three ITF Juniors Circuit events to remain in the Top 200 in world.

The 16-year-old got her highest—75 points—from the Copa Mundial Campeche FMT after making it to the semi-

finals of the doubles event of the Grade 1 tournament held in Campeche, Mexico from Nov. 12 to 18. Lee partnered with Ukraine's Viktoriya Petrenko and they won three matches to reach the Final Four before losing their finals bid against No. 3 seed Natsumi Kawaguchi of Japan and Adrienn Nagy of Hungary.

For her other competition in Mexico-the Mundial Juvenil Yucatan HSBC FMT held at the Club Campestre de Yucatán Calle in Merida from Nov. 19 to 25—the Commonwealth player received

20 points for prevailing in her opening singles match versus American Elvina Ka-Juniors lieva and advancing to the Round of 32 of the Grade A event.

> Earlier in October, the many-time TSL Foundation/ NMSA Female Student Athlete of the Year saw action in the 2018 Lee Duk Hee Cup Chuncheon International Junior Tennis Championships in South Korea and got 25 points in the doubles event. Lee partnered with Thailand's Lunda Kumhom and they marched into the quarterfinals of the Grade 2 contest.

With her additional 100 points in the doubles events in Mexico and South Korea,

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SBA to open new season in February

By ROBY N. PAMINTUAN pamintuanroby@gmail.com CORRESPONDENT

The Saipan Billiards Association is eyeing to kick off the 2019 season in February after completing the 2018 competition last October.

Pacific Amusement, Inc.'s Warlee Ellama said registration for the 2019 SBA Budweiser Open 8-Ball League is now

open for both the Tuesday

and Thursday divisions. He added that the exact dates of the opening will be announced once SBA has compiled the

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Brannon's Jam Shooters players pose with their Budweiser Cup trophies in the Thursday division during the awards banquet for the 2018 SBA Open 8-Ball League held last Oct. 21 at the Charlev's Cabaret of Pacific Islands Club.

Christmas Island Relay set for Dec. 29

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com REPORTER

Northern Marianas Athletics will conclude the season with the staging of the 37th Annual Christmas Island Relay on Dec. 29.

After successfully holding the 34th Annual Mt. Tapochao Turkey Trot Run last month, NMA secretary general Robin Sapong said their association decided to go ahead with the 13.7-mile race from Pacific Islands Club in San Antonio to the Last Command Post in Marpi. Sapong added that their president, Ray Tebuteb, and the NMA board

have also agreed to donate proceeds from the relay event to schools/students affected by Super Typhoon Yutu. Beneficiaries of both the relay and the Mt. Tapochao Turkey Trot Run's proceeds

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Rinty FC members run together to the finish line in Marpi during last year's 36th Annual Christmas